CANADIAN HOUSE & HOME

JUNE 2025

The Advice Issue

WITH TIPS FROM:

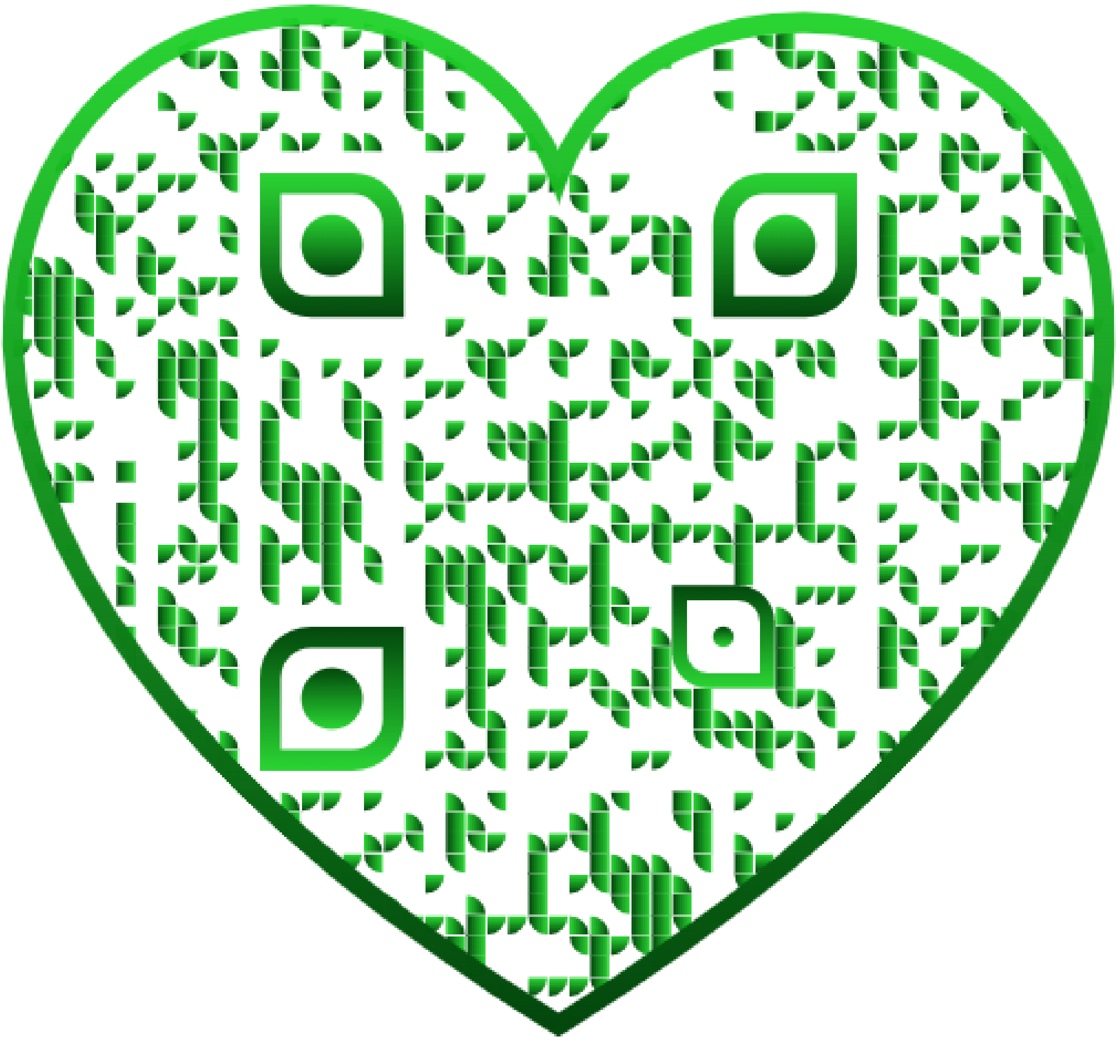
BLANC MARINE
BRIAN McCOURT
DESIGNSTRÖM
KESSLER LEVITAN
NYLA FREE
SEY STUDIOS
SUZANNE DIMMA
ATMOSPHERE INTERIOR DESIGN

BATHROOM REPORT:
4 SPACES TO SWOON OVER

CELEBRATE CANADA!
Visit Niagara

Plus

FRENCH AT HEART: NEW RECIPES FROM THE COOK'S ATELIER



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HOUSE & HOME
The Advice Issue
BATHROOM REPORT:
CELEBRATE CANADA! Visit Niagara
FRENCH AT HEART: NEW RECIPES FROM THE COOK'S ATELIER

ON THE COVER

A cosy, colour-drenched dining nook by Amanda L. Hoyle of Sey Studios. Photography by Anna Stathaki. Story, page 34.

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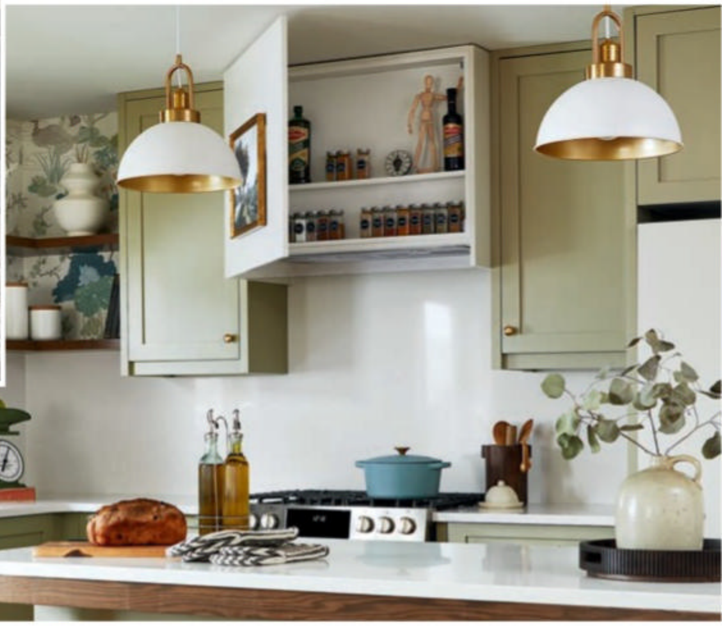

FROM LEFT: Nyla Free used wallpaper to bring drama to a water closet; Designström hung a bold plaid paper on a bedroom wall; Brian McCourt's ingenious spice storage in his mom's kitchen.

Finding Gold

We're so lucky to be able to publish the stunning homes by our top designers that spare no expense. Beautifully detailed — often with great art — these rooms are inspiring to us all.

But then, there's another category of homes I call "the clones." They usually have the same list of must-haves: blond wood floors, reeded wood cabinets, miles of heavily veined marble, curved sofas and teddy bear chairs, and the same dining room chairs and eat-in kitchens... all taupes and tans, and not much other colour. You know the look. We liked it the first time we published it, but after the 10th time, we can't keep showing it to you. And yet, the majority of submissions we receive are that same look. I can't understand why. Maybe because it's an easy formula, or because it's safe and good for resale? I hope so, because it's also an expensive mix.

Finally, there's another kind of house that is, by far, the hardest to find. When we do, it's like finding gold! These rooms ooze personality. They have memorable moments, aren't always expensive, but they're always interesting. They contain areas bathed in colour and show restraint where needed. They're often quirky and have at least one feature wall that you can't stop looking at. Creating these rooms on real-life budgets is the challenge most people face.

Brian McCourt's tale of customizing his mom's new house (*page 42*) met that challenge. His originality and clever use of colour and pattern in unexpected ways are things we can all do. Consider the small moves that made all the difference. What would the kitchen be without the flourish of bold wallpaper behind dark wood shelves or the mossy green painted cabinets? Boring, no doubt. Above, see his brilliant spice cabinet hidden behind the door of the exhaust hood.

For the same reason, I love the bathroom by Suzanne Dimma (*page 69*) with the unexpected drama of a single marble plinth sitting between two draped towels and the restrained use of the same stone to rim a shower enclosure and top a wood vanity. Amanda L. Hoyle's London flat (*page 34*) has many of these unexpected moments. One in particular, I've already added to my inspo file. It's the colour-drenched dining nook on our cover, where a montage of graphic, patterned throw pillows on the banquette against dreamy blue walls is pure eye candy. And finally, the tub shot in the Blanc Marine Intérieurs bathroom (*page 72*) is a lesson in how to create a stunning composition. The vintage painting hanging on the warm beige painted walls had me the moment I saw it.

So how do you get there? Trial and error, and a willingness to spend your weekends hunting down the finds. It's a lot of work to do what Brian did. As he explains, it takes searching flea markets, vintage shops and bargain sources, and then mixing your finds with the best investment pieces you can afford. And don't forget to play with tile, fabrics and wallpaper. Even a small amount used strategically can bring drama and colour to a space with very little investment.

A final note: Thank you to everyone who sent in recommendations of small design stores in your towns across Canada that deserve our attention and support. Please sign up for our newsletter so we can regularly send you updates of **SHOPS WE LOVE** and post them online at houseandhome.com.

Lynda

Lynda Reeves

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Photography by Gabor Jurina (Lynda's portrait)/Phil Crozier (bathroom)/ James Morley, Doublespace Photography (bedroom)/Valerie Wilcox (kitchen)

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YOUR LETTERS

OUR READERS HAVE THEIR SAY.

CANADIAN
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MOODY HUES
SPRING'S NEW LOOK

Rosie Daykin's home ("This Changes Everything," May 2025) is so bright, lovely and comfortable. It oozes personality and artistry. The other homes featured also exude style, individual personality and confidence. Keep showing homes with personality!
— JANET McINTOSH

I received the May issue today and am in love with the cover. However, I'm almost embarrassed at the number of "Canadian content only" letters published. Six months from now, this whipped-up panic will seem quaint. Countries ebb, flow, change, and change again in relation to other countries. Being told to "go off" on anything not sufficiently Canadian shows what an obedient, sheepy, easily manipulated crowd we've become. For many of us, our families straddle the border. *Nothing* could make me go "to war" against the U.S. Blustering politicians' war talk has no place in a design magazine. Let's see how things look after the election, and after everyone takes a deep breath.
— TOBY YULL, *Dundas, Ont.*

I've been a subscriber since 1986. I love art, design and decorating, and I love your magazine. As a Canadian, I'm glad we have H&H to be proud of in our wonderful country. Why is the Made In Canada ad on the last page of the issue and not front and centre? And why are you still showing American content like the "Bright & Breezy" feature (May 2025)? This is an American architect and designer, and the home is likely in Palm Beach. It's just a reminder to you that, when we relax, we want to be comforted by our own great provinces and beautiful homes!
— KRISTA, *Burlington, Ont.*

I read the letters in the May 2025 issue concerning Donald Trump and the ongoing tariffs, and the plea by many to focus on Canada only in this magazine. I get it: we're Canadian and we're proud of that. H&H has done a fantastic job of celebrating Canadian talent over the years, and design magazine fanatics like me won't ever stop buying this proudly Canadian publication. I expect that H&H will continue to showcase Canadian designers and houses going forward. But I also believe that it doesn't matter where we live — Canada, America, the U.K., or any other place. Why? Because we all have one thing in common: we love design, decorating and magazines that inspire us. We should never let politics, anger or bad government policies influence our love of design and creativity. Please, folks, let's not allow Donald Trump to ruin that, too.
— SUE KAINZ, *Toronto*

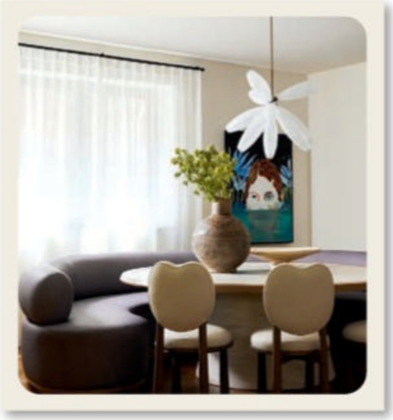
CANADIAN
HOUSE&HOME
Before AND AFTER
REAL-LIFE STORIES TO INSPIRE

Your April issue ushered in a wave of sunshine and positive energy. As a busy working mom, I escape into your magazine each month; what a beautiful way to daydream. The Halifax

CONTINUED ON PAGE 92

HERE'S WHAT YOU LOVED ON OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS.

MOST-PINNED PHOTO



THIS DINING AREA BY FORWARD INTERIORS BOASTS A CUSTOM CURVED BANQUETTE

MOST-LIKED INSTAGRAM POST

CANADIAN
HOUSE&HOME

A THROWBACK TO H&H'S VERY CANADIAN DECEMBER 2007 COVER

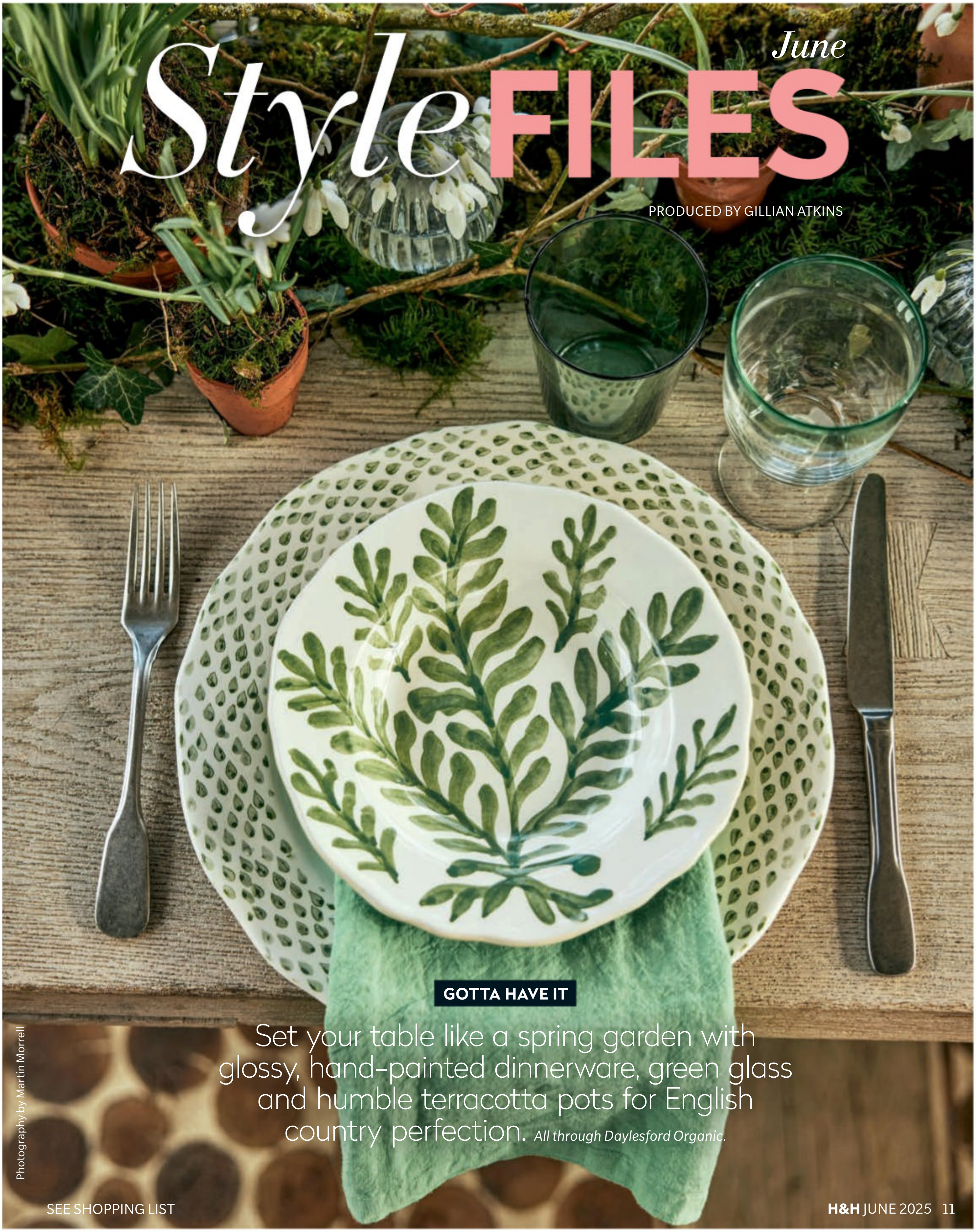
MOST-POPULAR GALLERY

VANIA PECCHIA DESIGNS AN AIRY GREAT ROOM WITH FRENCH COUNTRY STYLE

Compiled by Chelsea Dolan/Photography by Andrew Montgomery (May 2025 cover, Most-pinned)/Lauren Miller (April 2025 cover)/Donna Griffith (Most-liked)/Tina Kulic (Most-popular)/Room design by Clare Forndran and Danielle De Francesco (Most-pinned)/Vania Pecchia (Most-popular)

June Style FILES

PRODUCED BY GILLIAN ATKINS



Photography by Martin Morrell

GOTTA HAVE IT

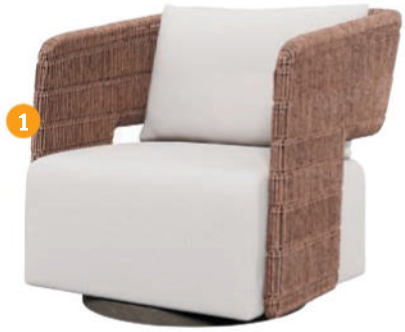
Set your table like a spring garden with glossy, hand-painted dinnerware, green glass and humble terracotta pots for English country perfection. *All through Daylesford Organic.*

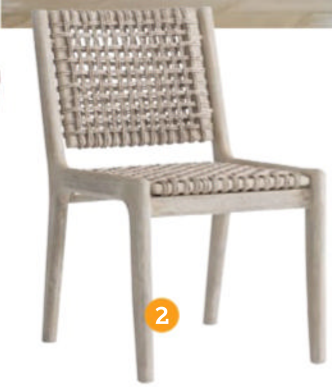
SEE SHOPPING LIST

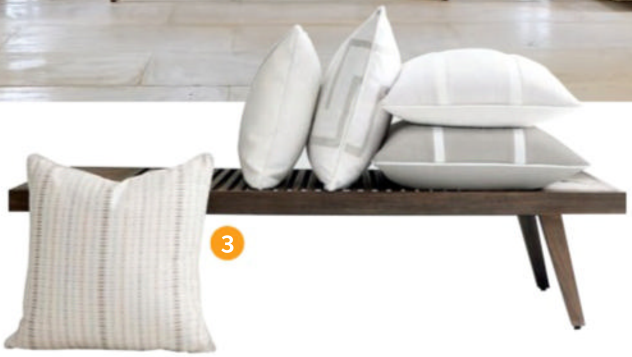
NEW & NOTABLE

Bernhardt at Elte

The new outdoor collection from Bernhardt Furniture Company has that laid-back, super-luxe, *White Lotus* vibe. The Maldives outdoor swivel chair with woven arms and the Atlas outdoor side chair in teak with a Sea Oat finish are standouts, as are the fabrics, all through Elte.







1. *Maldives* ***outdoor swivel chair,*** *from $5,035.*
2. *Atlas* ***outdoor side chair,*** *$1,065.*
3. *20"* ***outdoor throw pillows,*** *from $215 each.*
All through Elte.

RIGHT: *Spring Round Rattan* ***placemats,*** *$40/set of 4; Spring* ***plate collection,*** *from $15/set of 4; Spring* ***tablecloth*** *in Blue Gingham, $28.*

Tori Wesszer.

Large Spring ***watering can*** *in Pearl Blue, $25. All at Walmart Canada.*

COOL COLLAB

WALMART CANADA x TORI WESSZER

The Okanagan Valley is home to lifestyle blogger and cookbook author **Tori Wesszer,** who has just launched Fraîche, her second capsule collection with **Walmart Canada.** You'll find watering cans, lanterns, tablecloths, porcelain bakeware and kitchen towels at affordable prices in pretty patterns and colours — just in time for spring.

Photography courtesy of Bernhardt Furniture Company (New & Notable)/Walmart Canada (Cool Collab)

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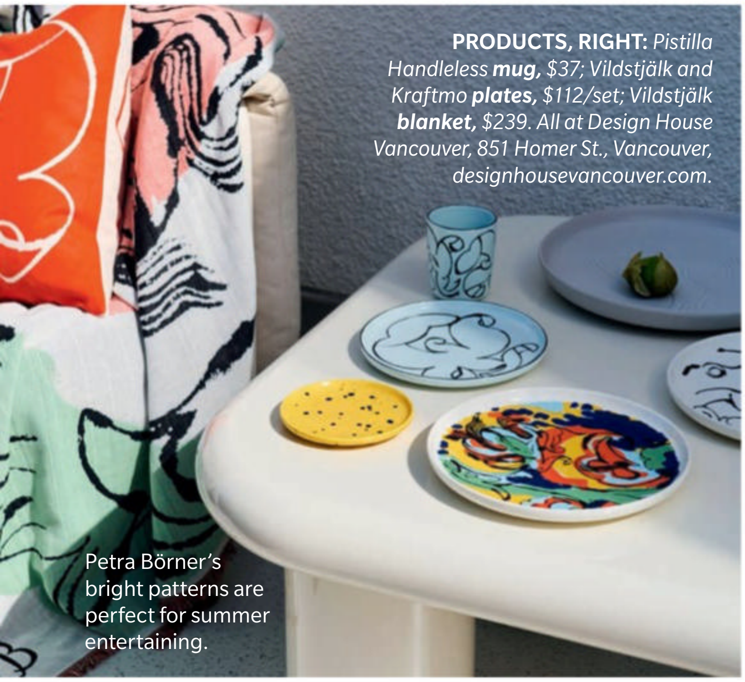
Scandi Design



PRODUCTS, RIGHT: *Pistilla Handleless* ***mug,*** *$37; Vildstjälk and Kraftmo* ***plates,*** *$112/set; Vildstjälk* ***blanket,*** *$239. All at Design House Vancouver, 851 Homer St., Vancouver, designhousevancouver.com.*

Petra Börner's bright patterns are perfect for summer entertaining.

COOL COLLAB

MARIMEKKO x PETRA BÖRNER

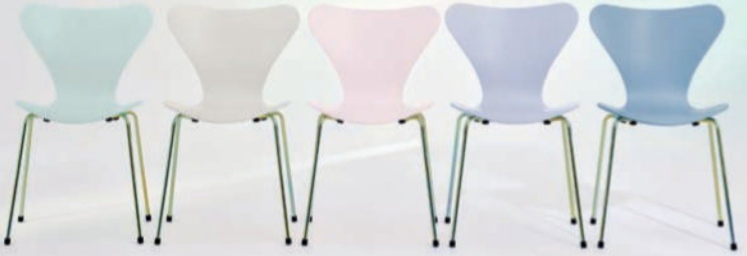
Flower power! From **Marimekko** comes a new capsule collection celebrating the anatomy of a flower. Swedish artist **Petra Börner** has created artworks that you'll find on tableware and textiles. Bold, graphic patterns and vivid colours offer joyful additions for styling your rooms this spring. It's the latest installment in the Marimekko Artist Series from the Finnish lifestyle brand.

DESIGN NEWS

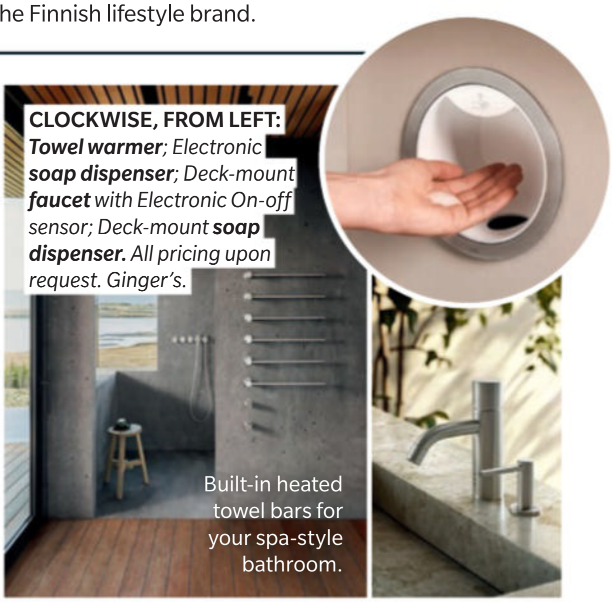
Still Arne

In 1955, when **Arne Jacobsen** designed the **Series 7** chair, we wonder if he knew he was giving the world what would become a truly sustainable, iconic design masterpiece that would endure for generations. Fritz Hansen is celebrating the 70th birthday of the Series 7 with the release of five soft, pastel shades and an iridescent finish that capture the hues of a sunrise. Raise a glass! *Series 7* ***chairs,*** *from approx. $936 each. Through Fritz Hansen.*

A portrait of architect Arne Jacobsen taken in 1959. Arne is considered to be a pioneer in Danish modernism.



CLOCKWISE, FROM LEFT: ***Towel warmer****; Electronic* ***soap dispenser****; Deck-mount* ***faucet*** *with Electronic On-off sensor; Deck-mount* ***soap dispenser.*** *All pricing upon request. Ginger's.*



Built-in heated towel bars for your spa-style bathroom.

HOME TECH

IN HIGH STYLE

Danish line **Vola** has launched a line of super-sleek, techno-savvy bathroom faucets and fittings. There's a basin mixer that offers hands-free activation that you can customize for the flow settings you want; it's self-cleaning and totally quiet. Also in the line are modular heated towel bars that are slim and discreet and offer perfectly warm towels on a timer that shuts off after two hours, plus a hands-free soap dispenser, all in soft brushed stainless. Voilà!

Photography courtesy of Marimekko (Cool Collab)/ Fritz Hansen (Design News)/Vola (Home Tech)

SEE SHOPPING LIST

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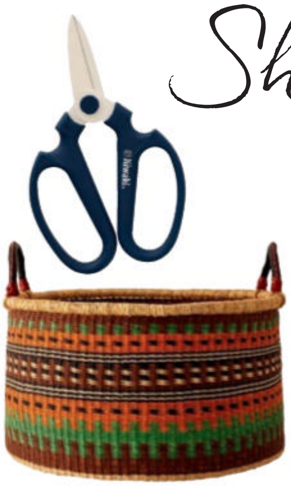

FROM TOP: *Sakagen* ***flower scissors*** *in Blue by Niwaki, $75; Large* ***short basket*** *in Rust and Turquoise by Baba Tree, $225; The Warley Fall HDG* ***watering can*** *by Haws, $395. All at Goodee.*

GOOD FOR GOODEE

Goodee's first brick-and-mortar store just opened on March 28. Byron and Dexter Peart have set up shop in Montreal, their hometown, to bring the Goodee experience of a curated marketplace of ethically made and transparently sourced products to life, as they envisioned it from the start. We can hardly wait to visit!

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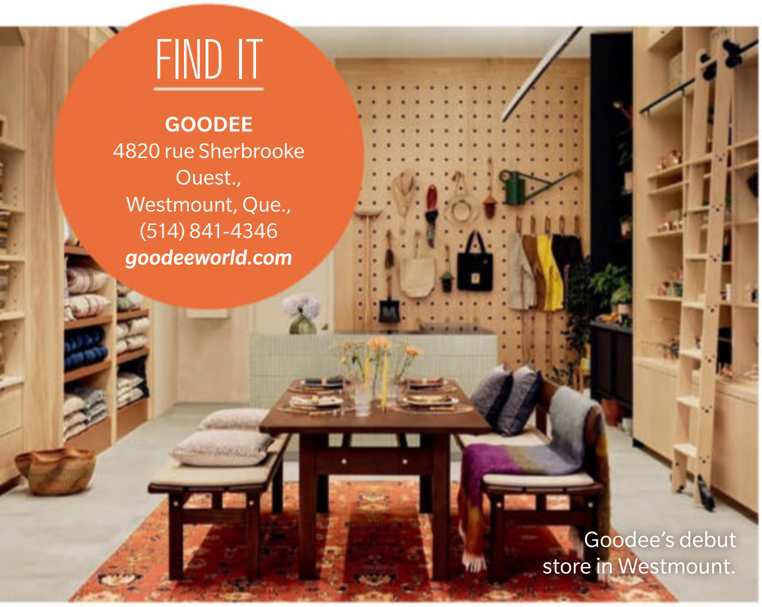
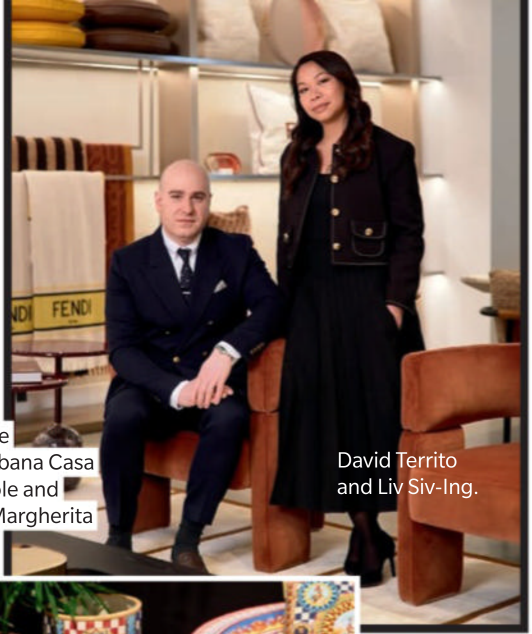
goodeeworld.com

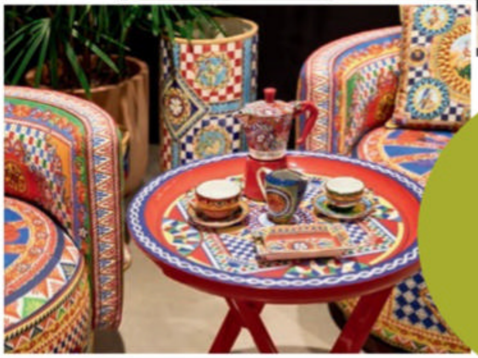


Goodee's debut store in Westmount.



David Territo and Liv Siv-Ing.

BELOW: The Dolce&Gabbana Casa Calliope table and Planetario Margherita armchairs.



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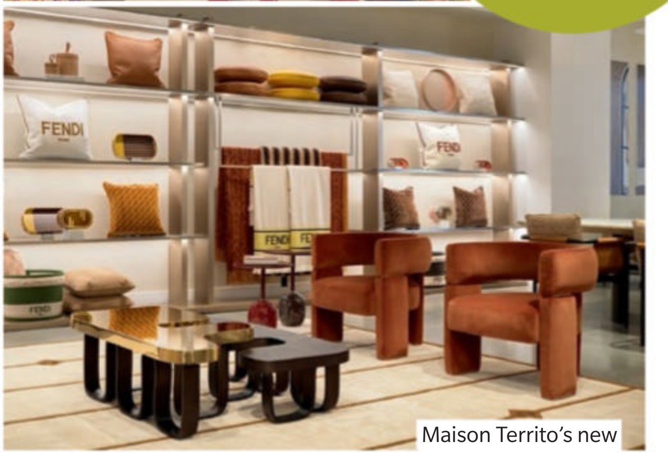

Maison Territo's new showroom featuring Fendi Casa.

LUXE LIVES IN ROYALMOUNT

Maison Territo is the newest store to open in the design hub of Royalmount in Mont-Royal, Que. The creative pair of David Territo and Liv Siv-Ing have designed an immersive experience to showcase high-end Italian design brands Dolce&Gabbana Casa, Fendi Casa, Versace Home and Bentley Home. Small accessory brands include Louis Poulsen, Devialet, Assouline and Trudon. Blanchette Archi.design created the 11,000-square-foot space in dramatic style. The store will offer customized service for design pros and the public who want to experience the best of Italian design and craftsmanship.

Photography by Alex Lesage (Byron and Dexter's portrait, shop interior)/ Phil Bernard (Maison Territo)/courtesy of Goodee (Goodee products)

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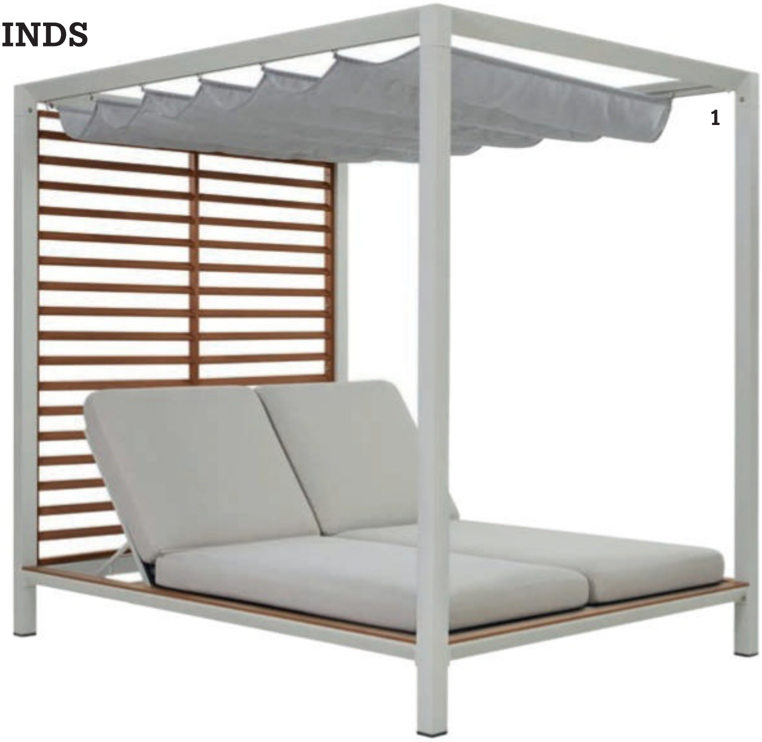

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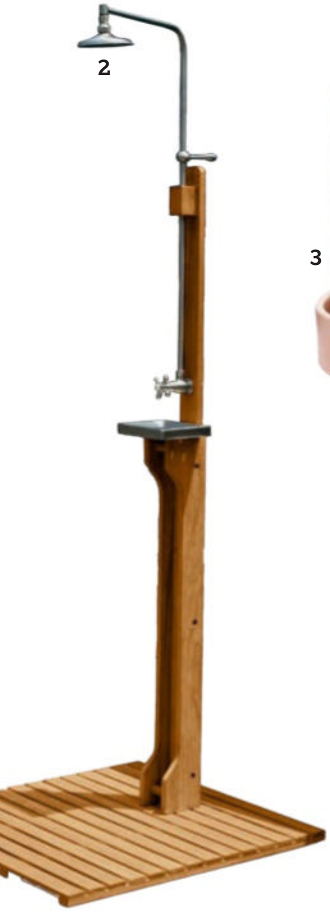

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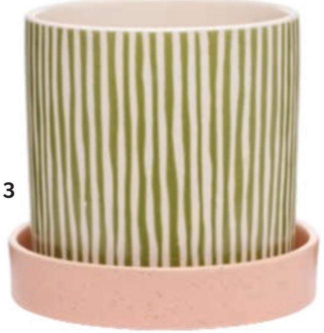

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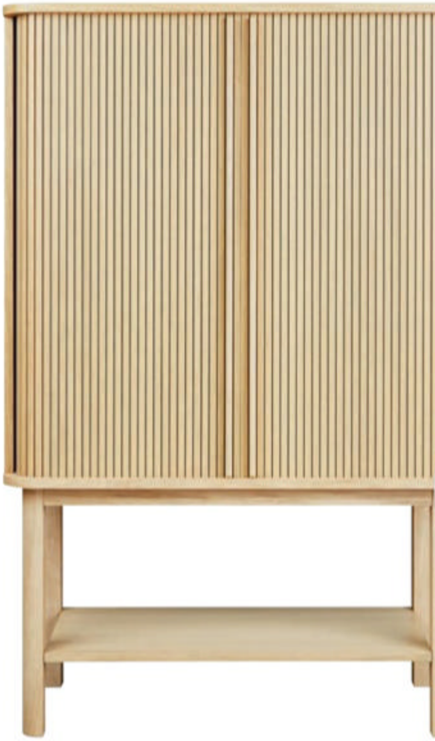
NEW & NOW

This month's favourites from the world of design.

Produced by **EMMA REDDINGTON** | *Text by* **RAIYANA MALIK**



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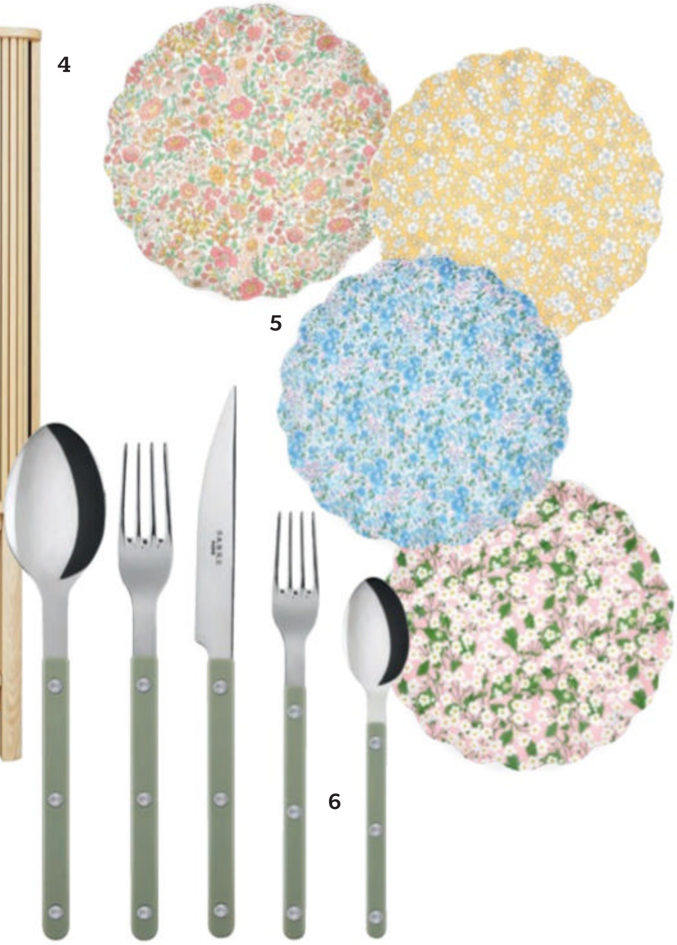

5

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1. LOUNGE ACT Stretch out on the **Lazy Cabana daybed,** which boasts a sleek aluminum frame with teak slats, UV-blocking canopy and roomy loungers with adjustable backrests. *By Must Jardin. 76" h. x 61" w. x 82½" d. $3,499. Jardin de Ville.*

2. TAKE A SHOWER The **Portable Teak Freestanding outdoor shower** connects to your hose to bring spa-like vibes to your cottage or backyard. *By Cambridge Casual. 81½" h. x 30" sq. $960. Wayfair Canada.*

3. INTO THE POT The large **Melancia pot with saucer** has subtle stripes and colours that are reminiscent of a watermelon. *In Green. 7" h. x 7¾" diam. $59. Old Faithful Shop.*

4. STAND TALL In oak with a vintage finish and featuring tambour sliding doors, the **Ledger Tall cabinet** has elegant lines and plenty of storage. *By Gus* Modern. 56½" h. x 35½" w. x 17½" d. $2,495. Ah-Bohd Home Store.*

5. FLORAL FEAST Get garden party ready with **Large Reusable Melamine plates** featuring Liberty's pretty signature florals. *9¾" diam. $70/set of 4. Meri Meri.*

6. TRÈS CHIC Add French flair to your dining table with Sabre Paris's **Bistrot flatware.** Acrylic handles in a sage hue offer a pop of spring colour. *In Green. $90/set of 5. Must.*

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Salt Stone Collection — Green Emerald

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MORE OR LESS

Jaunty outdoor finds for spring. *Produced by* **SIMONE OLIVERO**

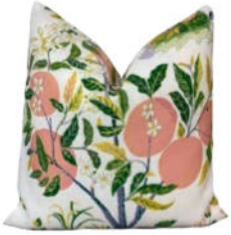
STRIPED MARKET UMBRELLA*

$615
Auto Tilt Market umbrella by Treasure Garden in Black and White Stripe. *102" h. x 108" diam. Casualife.*

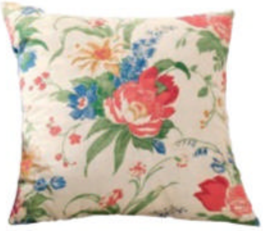
$399
Maria umbrella in Stripe Navy. *102½" h. x 90" diam. Article.*

$169
Pegasus Tilting Patio umbrella with LED Lights in Black and White Striped by CorLiving. *99" h. x 102" diam. Rona.*

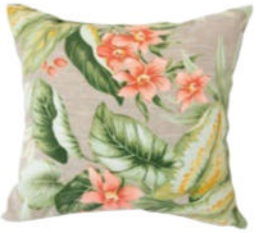
FLORAL THROW PILLOW



$174†
Citrus Garden Indoor-outdoor throw pillow cover with Self-welting in Schumacher Fabric by CushiDesignsCo. *20" sq. Etsy.*

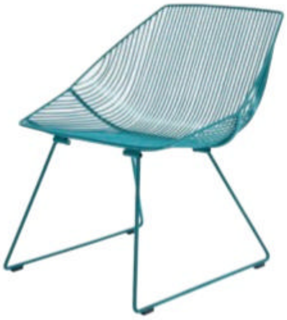


$113
Clermont Reversible Outdoor throw pillow. *22" sq. Pottery Barn Canada.*

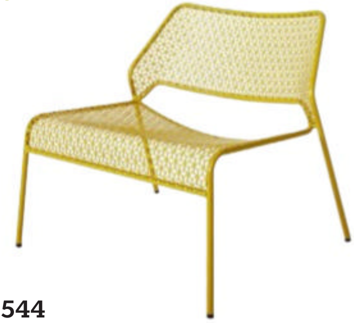


$7
Sofa Patio throw pillow in Beige Floral by Bozanto. *16" sq. The Home Depot Canada.*

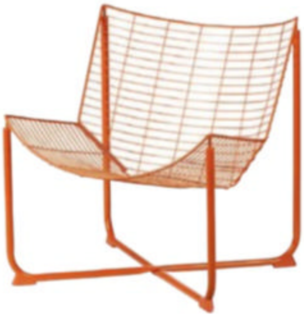
POWDER-COATED MESH LOUNGE CHAIR



$675
Bunny lounge chair in Peacock Blue by Bend Goods. *29" h. x 24" w. x 15" d. GR Shop by Gabriel Ross.*

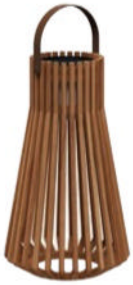


$544
Hot Mesh lounge chair in Natural Yellow by Blu Dot. *26" h. x 29" w. x 27" d. Hut K.*

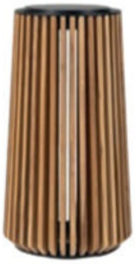


$99
Skålboda armchair in Orange by Niels Gammelgaard. *28" h. x 25¼" w. x 27⅛" d. Ikea.*

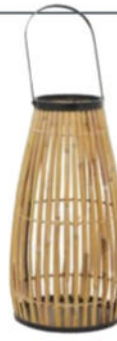
SLATTED OUTDOOR LANTERN



$3,189
Ambient Ray Teak cordless floor lamp with Leather Strap by Gloster. *27" h. x 16" diam. Livingspace Outdoor.*



$1,250
Large Maya Teak solar lantern by Vincent Sheppard. *19" h. x 11" diam. LampTwist.*



$104
Wicker Handmade Slatted Frame Decorative candle lantern with Metal Handle by The Novogratz. *20" h. x 11" diam. Bed Bath & Beyond.*

*Umbrella base not included/†Insert not included

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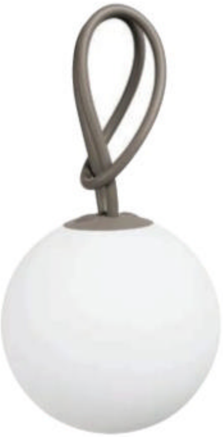
Image by Purple Tree Photography

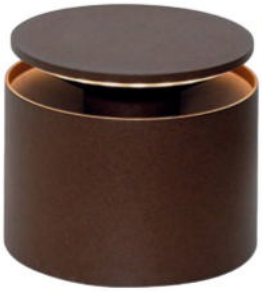
NIGHT LIGHTS

Cordless lanterns bring an ambient glow to your patio.

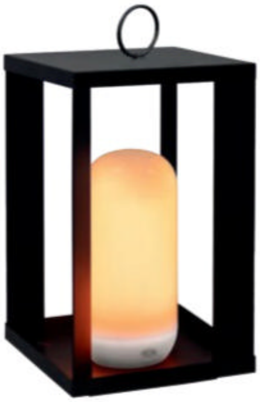
Produced by **GILLIAN ATKINS** | *Text by* **CHELSEA DOLAN**



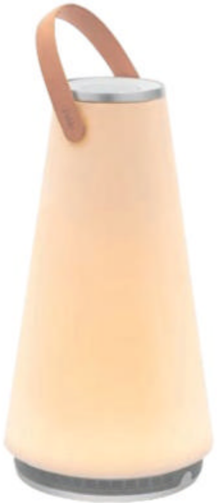
BOLLEKE Hang this water-repellent lamp using the adjustable silicone cord wherever you need lighting. *In Taupe by Nathalie Schellekens. 39" h. x 8" diam. $179. Fatboy.*



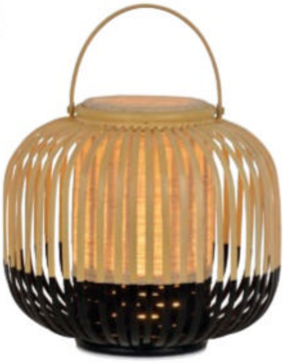
PUSHUP PRO Gently press on the top of this aluminum light to turn it on and choose one of three colour temperature settings. *In Rust by Zafferano. 4" h. x 4¾" diam. $218. Robinson Lighting & Bath.*



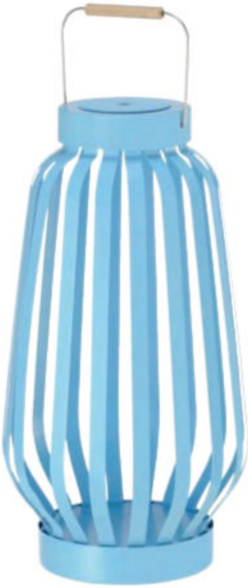
SIROCO Set the mood with a traditional metal lantern that has a flame setting. *By Newgarden. 19¾" h. x 7" sq. $150. InsideOut.*



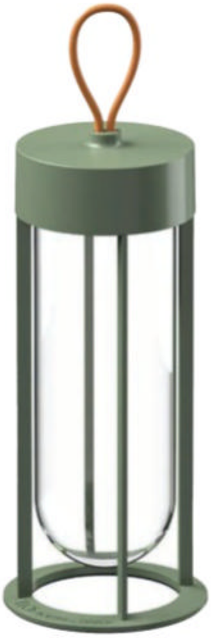
UMA Sleek and minimalist with a leather handle. Bonus: It doubles as a Bluetooth speaker! *By Pablo Designs. 11" h. x 6" diam. $850. Simons.*



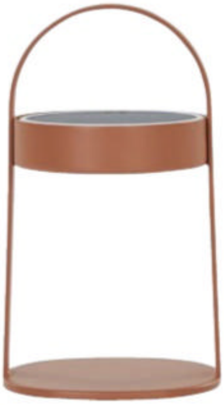
TAKE A WAY The two-tone bamboo frame has coastal style, and the light boasts three brightness levels. *In Black by Arik Levy for Forestier. 11⅖" h. x 10⅗" diam. $465. Casa Di Luce.*



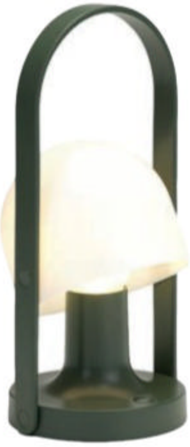
SOLVINDEN A battery-operated lamp with a slatted stainless steel frame that casts a playful sunburst shadow. *In Blue Stripe by H Klarqvist and W Chong. 17" h. x 9" diam. $30. Ikea.*



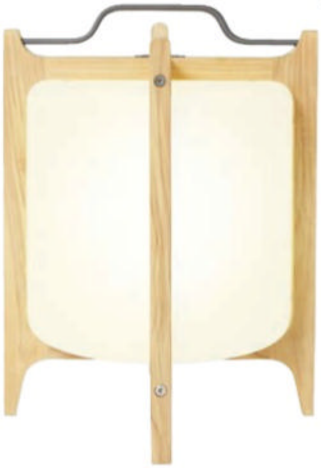
IN VITRO UNPLUGGED Philippe Starck designed this aluminum and glass lantern with a concealed LED light source that illuminates an elegant glass dome. *In Pale Green for Flos. 12" h. x 4½" diam. $2,025. Elte.*



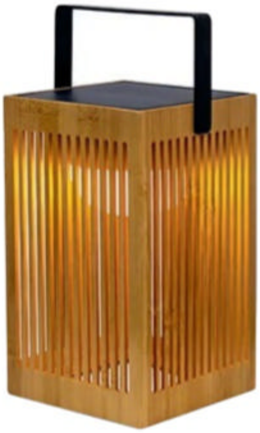
SOLO This waterproof aluminum lamp has a rechargeable battery powered by solar energy or via USB. *In Sanstone Orange. 10" h. x 6½" diam. $79. Must.*



FOLLOWME A swinging shade and curved oak handle give this lantern a contemporary feel. *In Green by Inma Bermúdez for Marset. 11⅓" h. x 4⅘" diam. $325. Robinson Lighting & Bath.*



VOYAGER Control the brightness of this dimmable Scandi-style light with a remote. *In Meteor-teak by Henrik Pedersen for Gloster. 17" h. x 13" diam. $1,260. Jardin de Ville.*



OKINAWA A Japandi-style, boxy bamboo lamp that stays lit for up to 20 hours. *By Newgarden. 9⅖" h. x 5½" sq. $129. ARD Outdoor.*

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Explore Collections

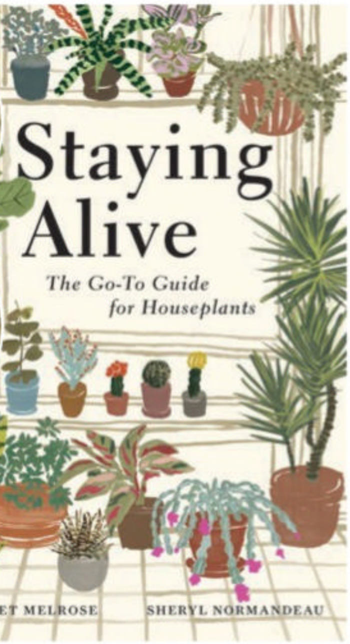
Home GROWN

What to do in June.

By **WENDY JACOB**

EXPERT OPINION

Calgary plant pros Sheryl Normandeau (*top*) and Janet Melrose on what they're buying this month.

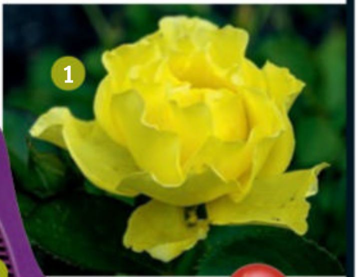


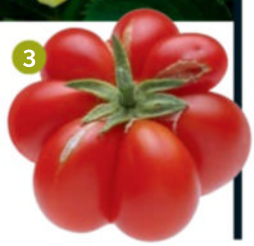
1. "I'd love to splurge on a new yellow rose like Yukon Sun," says Janet. "This Canadian-bred rose has semi-double flowers that bloom continuously, it's highly resistant to black spot and it's cold hardy up to -35°C." *Vineland 49th Parallel Collection Yukon Sun* ***rose,*** *from $25 each. Prairie Gardens or Oxford Insta-Shade.*

2. "Canadian brand Lee Valley has a huge online catalogue," says Sheryl. "This loop-style weeder is effective and easy to use." The thin blade allows for precise weeding and helps prevent accidentally nicking stems or roots. *Garden Bandit Hand Loop* ***weeder,*** *$20. Lee Valley.*

3. "I'm a passionate tomato grower and want to try an unusual heirloom variety such as the Reisetomate or Traveler's tomato," says Sheryl. "The bumpy fruit looks like fused cherry tomatoes that you separate like garlic cloves." *Reisetomate* ***seeds,*** *$4/pack of 30. Greta's Family Gardens.*

Read more from Sheryl and Janet in their new book, ***Staying Alive: The Go-To Guide for Houseplants.*** *TouchWood Editions, 2025, $24.*





BLOOMING BRILLIANT

The spandex in these pretty **garden gloves** is made from 96 per cent recycled plastic bottles. Goatskin padded palms and hooded fingertips offer water-resistant protection for hands while planting and pruning. *Lily* ***gloves*** *by Watson Gloves, $20. Ritchie Feed & Seed.*

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Upgrade your built-in sprinkler system with Moen's **smart controller and wireless soil sensors.** Instead of buried cables, these sensors are simply pushed into the soil to measure moisture, plus the controller takes only 30 minutes to install. *Moen Smart Wireless* ***soil sensor,*** *$139 each; Moen 8-Zone Smart* ***sprinkler controller,*** *$292. Both through Amazon.*

Photography by Steve Melrose (Sheryl and Janet's portraits)/Sunny Celeste, iStock.com (tomato)/courtesy of TouchWood Editions (book)/Watson Gloves (gloves)/Moen (app, sensors, monitor)/Landscape Ontario Horticultural Trades Association (Yukon Sun rose)/Lee Valley (loop weeder)/Connon Nurseries (nursery)

Connon Nurseries hosts seasonal workshops and offers outdoor planter subscriptions.

Local Growers

Visit these Canadian nurseries for pro tips and a huge array of plants.

Oceanview Home and Garden in Chester, N.S., carries stunning Japanese maple varieties, perennials, ornamental grasses and more. Find blog posts on its website and video tutorials on YouTube. *Plantcrazy.ca*

For three generations, the family-run **Centre de Jardin Brossard** on Montreal's South Shore has been selling plants and dispensing helpful in-store services such as soil testing, pest and disease identification, and repotting. Bulbs and seeds are available to order online. *Centredejardinbrossard.com*

Founded in 1906, **Connon Nurseries** has three Ontario locations, in Waterdown, Newmarket and Trenton. Here, you'll find a vast selection of annuals, perennials and shrubs. Six pop-ups are on the way this summer; check the website for locations! *Connon.ca*

Thomas Hobbs is known for his striking plantings and arrangements. His **Southlands Nursery** in Vancouver offers a huge selection of David Austin roses, garden antiques and European pots including Bergs Potter. *Southlandsnursery.com*

WEB For more garden tips, visit **houseandhome.com/june2025**

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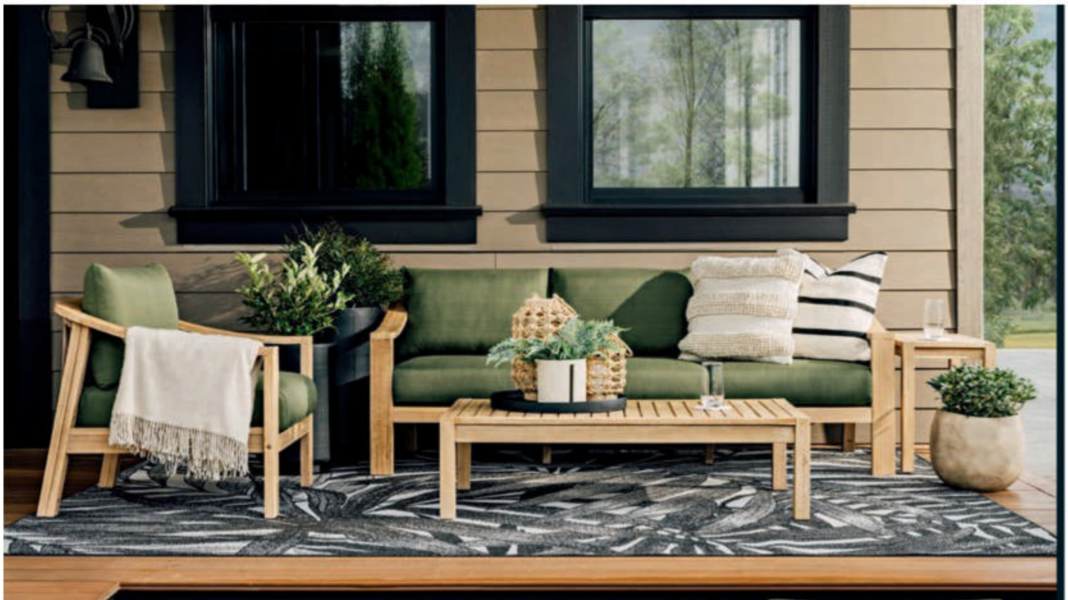
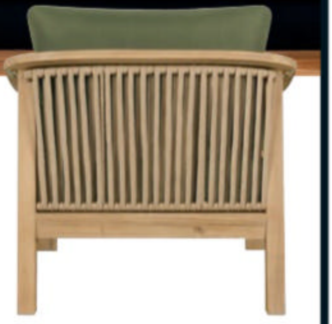
The Nature of Things

Sustainable summer accents for indoors and out.

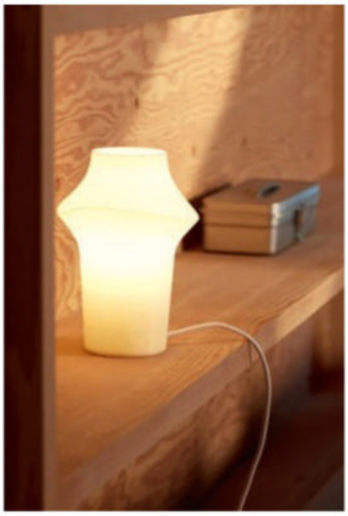
By **ALEXANDRA WHYTE**





SIT BACK AND RELAX

The new Tulum collection from Canadian furniture maker **Urban Barn** includes an outdoor armchair, love seat and sofa, each made with a sustainable acacia frame and recyclable polypropylene rope detailing. Water-resistant polyester upholstery in a mossy green hue complements the great outdoors. ***Armchair,*** *$599;* ***sofa,*** *$1,299;* ***love seat*** *(not shown), $1,099. All in Green. Urban Barn.*



BRIGHT IDEA

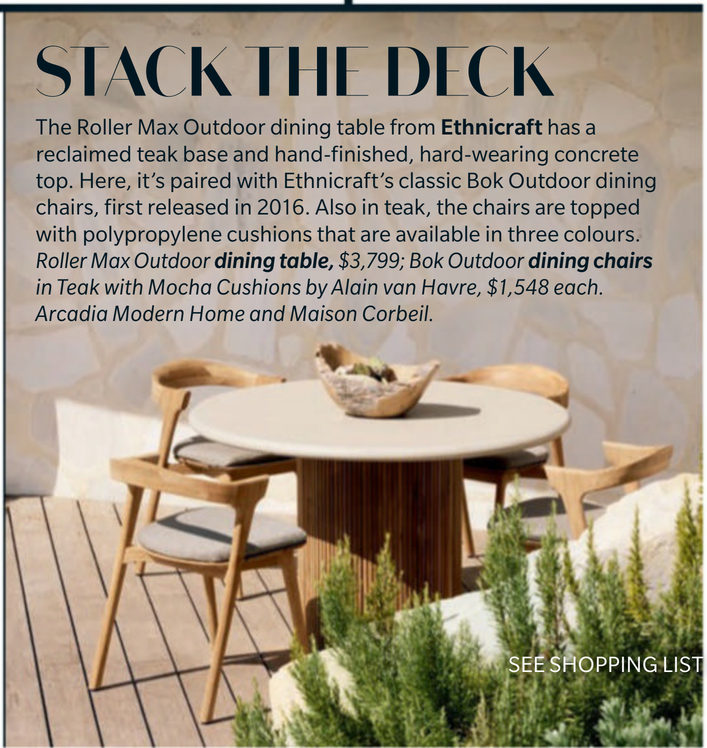
Known for its durable drinking glasses, Canadian dishware brand **Fable** has recently expanded into lighting with the Curve table light. Made from 3D-printed, plant-based biodegradable materials, the wired, dimmable lamp has an undulating form and soft, ambient glow. *$270. Fable.*

Earn Your Stripes

Marimekko's new soft and absorbent Raide bath towels by Annika Rimala are made from 100 per cent organic cotton. Available in two colourways, the towels have bold red or green stripes on a light pink background. *$79 each. Through Marimekko.*

Woven Wonder

An open rattan weave forms the base of **Must**'s Bodhi side table with a top in recycled teak. Perfect for setting down a drink or using as a stool! *$310. Must.*



STACK THE DECK

The Roller Max Outdoor dining table from **Ethnicraft** has a reclaimed teak base and hand-finished, hard-wearing concrete top. Here, it's paired with Ethnicraft's classic Bok Outdoor dining chairs, first released in 2016. Also in teak, the chairs are topped with polypropylene cushions that are available in three colours. *Roller Max Outdoor* ***dining table,*** *$3,799; Bok Outdoor* ***dining chairs*** *in Teak with Mocha Cushions by Alain van Havre, $1,548 each. Arcadia Modern Home and Maison Corbeil.*

SEE SHOPPING LIST

Photography courtesy of Urban Barn (sofa and chairs)/Fable (table light)/Marimekko (towel)/Must (rattan table)/Ethnicraft (table and chairs)

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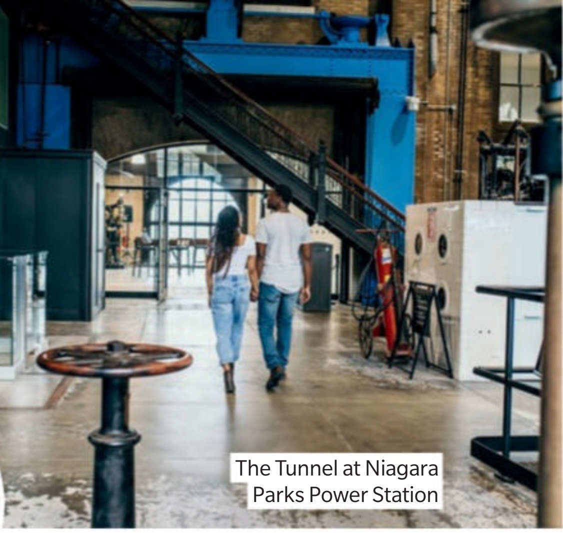
124 on Queen Hotel & Spa

Restaurant Pearl Morissette


The Tunnel at Niagara Parks Power Station

NIAGARA

By **MARYAM SIDDIQI**

All the nature, art, food and theatre in Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake and the surrounding wine country will surprise you. Now is the perfect time to visit: cycle to wineries, relax at a spa and catch an unmatched glimpse of the world-famous falls.

WHERE TO STAY

New: 124 on Queen Hotel & Spa

A launchpad for exploring Niagara-on-the-Lake, this luxe hotel has a private garden, acclaimed restaurant with a deep wine cellar and a 12,000-square-foot spa. For larger groups, the two-bedroom villa is a spacious option. *124 Queen St., Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., 124queen.com*

Inn On The Twenty

Classic: Inn On The Twenty

Located in Jordan Village and surrounded by some of the region's best wineries. Suites in the century-old building are bright and airy, with expansive windows and 12-foot-high ceilings. The inn offers bike rentals, ideal for exploring neighbouring vineyards. *3845 Main St., Jordan Station, Ont., vintage-hotels.com/inn-on-the-twenty*

11th Post on Queen

WHERE TO EAT

Restaurant Pearl Morissette

One of the best restaurants in Canada, awarded one Michelin star, plus a Michelin Green star for its regenerative operations. The French-inspired menu is a celebration of local growers and farmers, fishers and foragers — and the resto has its own garden and orchard, too. Views over the namesake winery will make you feel transported. *3953 Jordan Rd., Jordan Station, Ont., restaurantpearlmorissette.com*

11th Post on Queen

The Niagara-on-the-Lake outpost of Two Sisters Vineyards, this restaurant is like visiting the winery without leaving town. Pair a glass of wine with elevated comfort food: nachos topped with house-smoked beef brisket, roasted chicken or a French beef dip sandwich. *135 Queen St., Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., 11thpostonqueen.ca*

Fat Rabbit

This butcher shop turned Michelin-recognized restaurant features house-made charcuterie (coppa, pancetta, sujuk and more) with sides including a pickle plate and foie gras–stuffed profiterole. *34 Geneva St., St. Catharines, Ont., fat-rabbit.ca*

WHAT TO SEE

The Tunnel at Niagara Parks Power Station

Enter through the restored station and head 180 feet underground to the 670-metre-long tunnel that water once roared through. As you journey to the epic view of Niagara Falls from the bottom of its cascade, you'll learn the history of the station and how the tunnel was built. *7005 Niagara Pkwy., Niagara Falls, Ont., niagaraparks.com*

RiverBrink Art Museum

This art gallery has 1,400 pieces in its permanent collection including works by Tom Thomson, Emily Carr and Edgar Degas. The spring and summer exhibition is *Tales in Line and Colour* by Japanese-Canadian artist Naoko Matsubara, an exploration of Japanese woodcut printmaking. *116 Queenston St., Queenston, Ont., riverbrink.org*

13th Street Winery

Visit this winery for the wine — and for the art. Between tastings, check out the sculpture garden on the winery grounds to explore works by local and international artists. *1776 Fourth Ave., St. Catharines, Ont., 13thstreetwinery.com*

Shaw Festival

A spring or summer trip to Niagara isn't complete without seeing a play at the Shaw Festival. This season, catch the laughs and lyrics of Cole Porter's *Anything Goes* or George Bernard Shaw's provocative *Major Barbara*. *10 Queen's Parade, Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ont., shawfest.com*

WHERE TO SHOP

New: Brigette & Amy

Inspired by owner Amy Eitzen's grandmother, Brigette, this home store is organized by collection — Vintage, Furniture, Kitchen — and offers textiles, furniture, kitchen tools and more. *51 Front St. S., Thorold, Ont., brigetteandamy.com*

Classic: Bloom & Co.

A floral business and mecca for gardeners. Find vases, pots and baskets of all sizes, plus essentials like pruning snips and watering vessels. *247 Four Mile Creek Rd., St. David's, Ont., bloomandco.shop*

Brigette & Amy

Photography courtesy of 124 on Queen Hotel & Spa (pool)/Restaurant Pearl Morissette (restaurant window, dish)/Niagara Parks Power Station (couple walking)/11th Post on Queen (restaurant exterior)/Inn On The Twenty (hotel room)/Brigette & Amy (shop interior)

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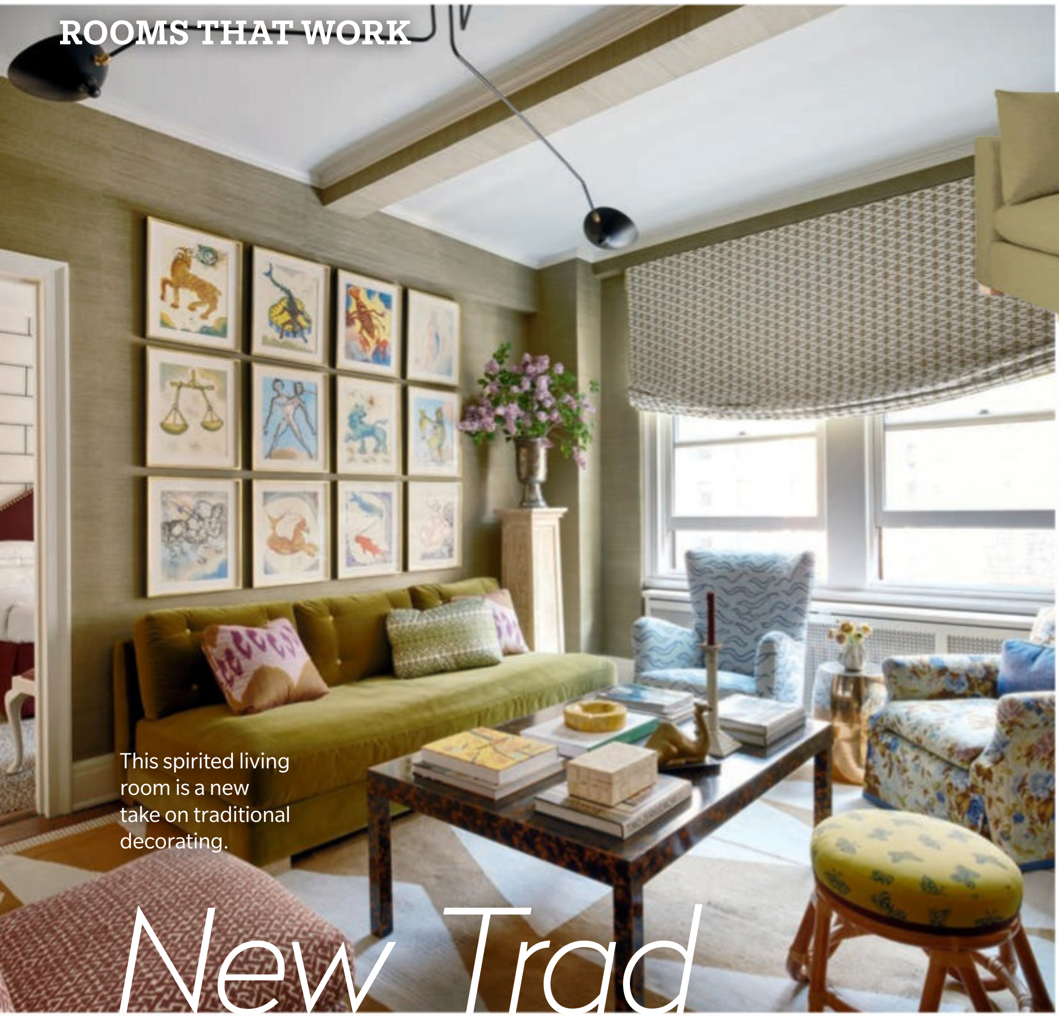

This spirited living room is a new take on traditional decorating.

New Trad LIVING ROOM

Lynda Reeves on the decorating moves that make this space sing. *Produced by* **AMANDA SMITH**

It's tricky to create a room that combines traditional elements in a way that feels fresh and modern.

WHY IT WORKS:

In this lively sitting room, the armless bench sofa sets a casual tone, and the 12 lithographs by Salvador Dalí dominating the wall above project a bold spirit. The three mismatched upholstered chairs and rattan stool add charm while the Serge Mouille three-arm ceiling fixture is the stroke of graphic black that gives the room its modern edge. Finally, the oak plinth in the corner topped with a classic urn of flowers is an unexpected flourish against Schumacher's Haruki Sisal wall covering in moody Olive.

GET THE LOOK

*71" Deseo Armless **love seat** with Como Velvet Upholstery in Camel and Light Oak Legs, $4,192. CB2 Canada.*

*< Hollyhock Handblock **fabric** in Blue-leaf by Lee Jofa, $698/yd. Kravet Canada.*

*> Kata **fabric** in Denim, $241/yd. Schumacher.*

*∧ Rabanna **fabric** in L-264 by Fermoie, $405/yd. Y&Co.*

*> Relic Oak **pedestal table** by Athena Calderone, $1,199. Crate & Barrel.*

*∧ Workshop **coffee table** in Black by Muuto, $1,049. Hut K.*

*Haruki Sisal **wallpaper** in Olive, $49/yd. Schumacher.*

*< Rustic Style Metal **urn** by LifeCuteDesign, $107. Etsy.*

*Kobe **swivel chair** in Dolly Angora by American Leather, $4,129. Cadieux Interiors.*

SPLURGE OR SAVE

*∧ Three-arm **ceiling lamp** in Black by Serge Mouille, $9,867. GR Shop by Gabriel Ross.*

*< Large Charlton Triple-arm **chandelier** in Black by Aerin for Visual Comfort, $2,348. Robinson Lighting & Bath.*

Photography by Francesco Lagnese, Otto (living room)/Room design by Alexander Wilson (living room)

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HOUSE & HOME
JUNE 2025

The only thing better than looking at a great room is hearing how it came to be. Thank you to the creatives who shared their stories and let us in on their secrets. And thank you to their clients who went for it.

Photography by Vincent Lions (top left)/Anson Smart (top right)/
Lauren Miller (bottom left)/Anna Stathaki (bottom right)

TRAD
WITH A TWIST

Designer Amanda L. Hoyle (*pictured*) added new decorative cornicing in the kitchen that matched the original.

CANADIAN DESIGNER AMANDA L. HOYLE REIMAGINES A NOTTING HILL FLAT FOR TODAY.

Styling by Anna Sheridan

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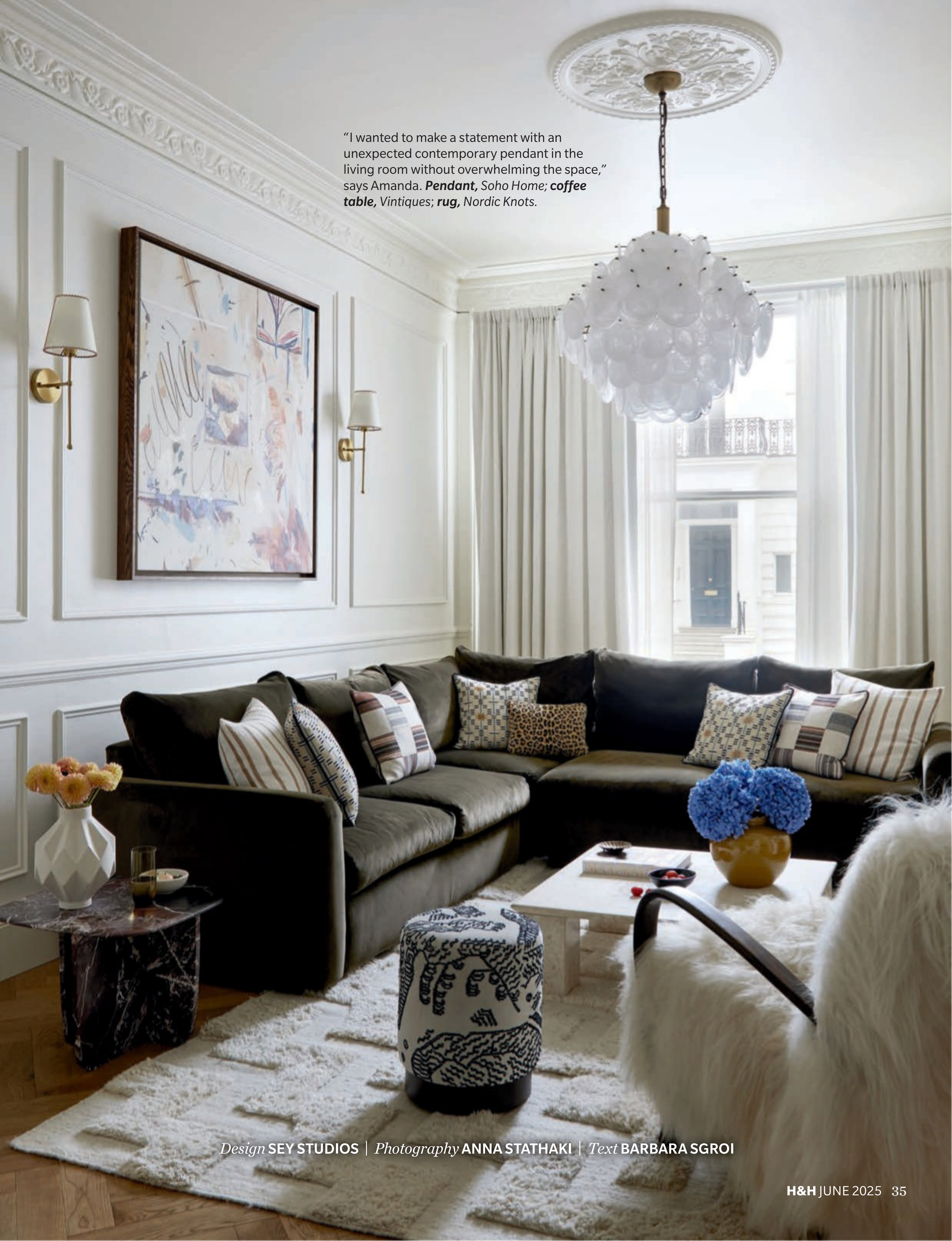

"I wanted to make a statement with an unexpected contemporary pendant in the living room without overwhelming the space," says Amanda. ***Pendant,*** *Soho Home;* ***coffee table,*** *Vintiques*; ***rug,*** *Nordic Knots.*

Design **SEY STUDIOS** | *Photography* **ANNA STATHAKI** | *Text* **BARBARA SGROI**

Classic Victorian formality and contemporary curves set the mood in the entry. ***Mirror,*** *Soho Home.*

The painting that hangs in the living room inspired the home's palette. ***Sofa,*** *Loaf;* ***art*** *by Philip Maltman.*

AS **A TRAVELLER SOON DISCOVERS,** every city has its own unique sound, rhythm and energy. In Notting Hill, a vibrant West London neighbourhood packed with celebrities, artists and antiques, rows and rows of serene, off-white stucco Victorian townhouses line the busy streets, seemingly unperturbed by the rush and rumble of London life.

It's just that sense of calm elegance that Canadian-born, London-based designer Amanda L. Hoyle and her husband, geologist Oliver Friesen, were seeking when they walked into a two-storey flat in a classic Victorian townhouse just minutes from Hyde Park and a world away from the hurly-burly.

Amanda's hometown is Toronto. Back in 2016, Amanda had decamped from North America to the U.K. in search of "an international experience working in public relations." But her growing interest in interior design led her to London's KLC School of Design. She founded her firm, Sey Studios, in 2024, where she now specializes in residential design with a global perspective, combining contemporary North American design with more traditional British colours and patterns.

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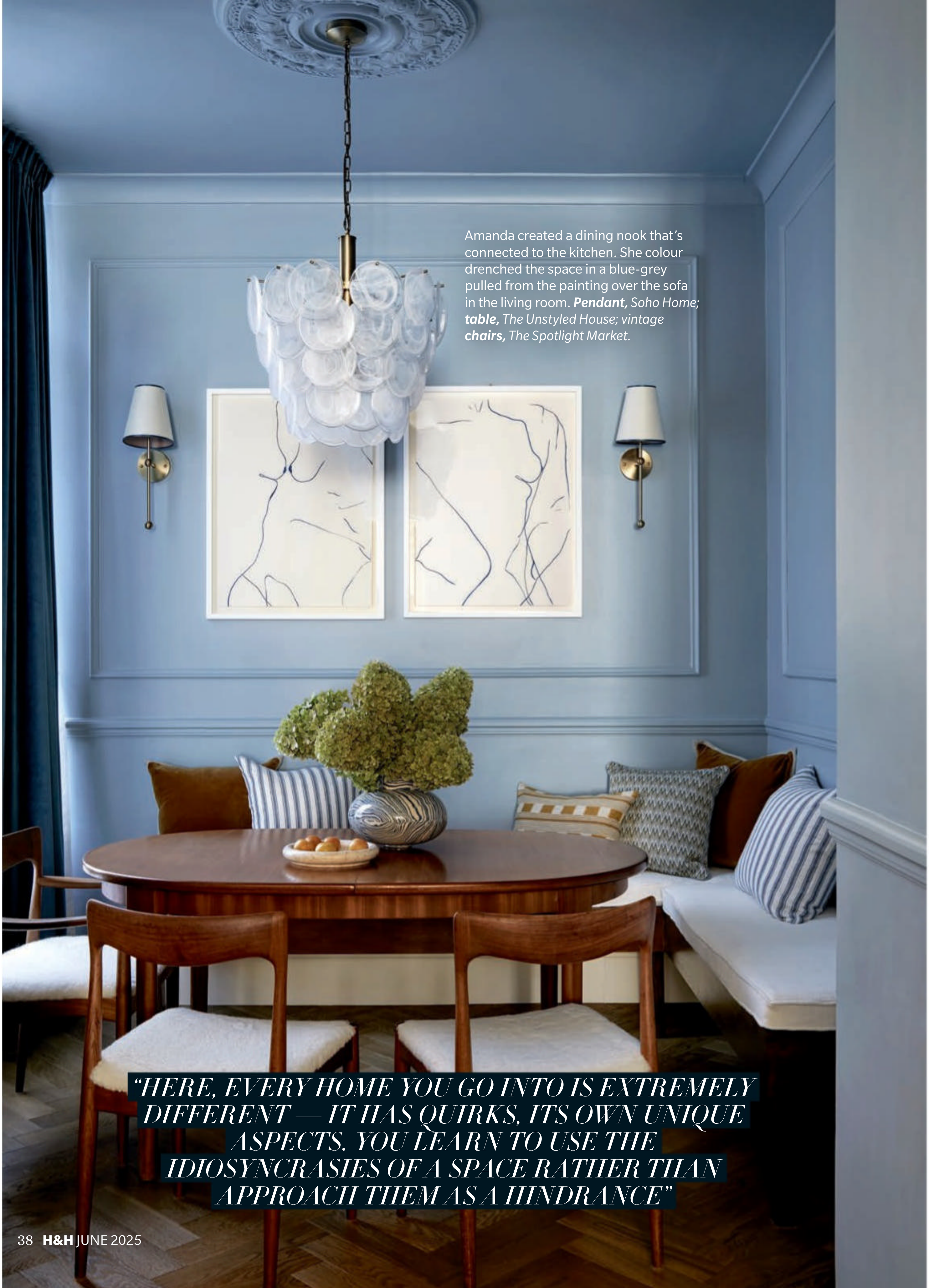
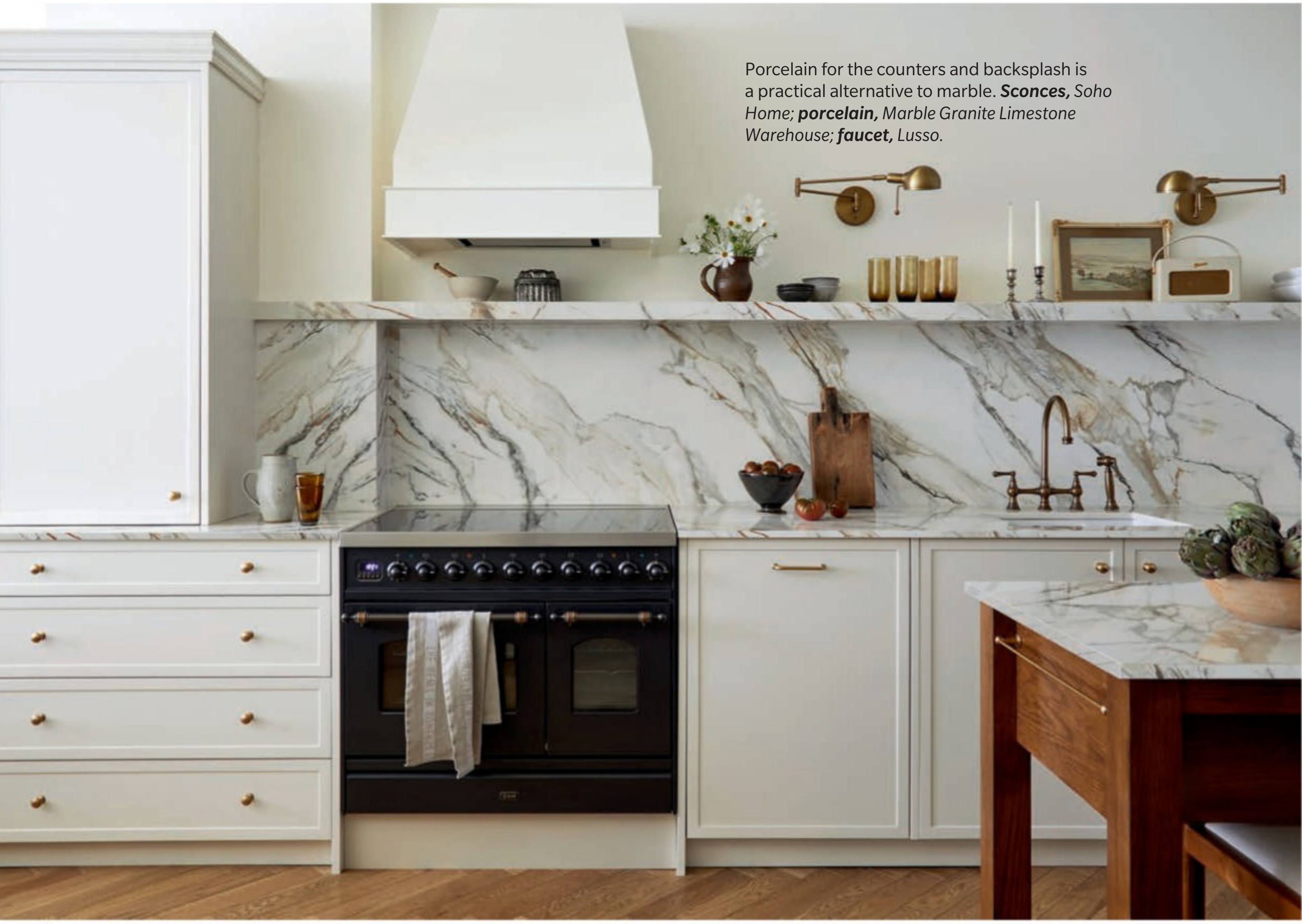
On either side of the fireplace are open shelves that display personal collections. ***Armchair** by Jindřich Halabala, Pure White Lines.*
OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT: New, classically Victorian moulding lends edgy contrast to a contemporary, stone-topped console. ***Console,** Soho Home;* ***ottoman,** Six The Residence;* ***photographic art** by Max Miechowski, Open Doors Gallery.*

> *"I LOVE THE TENSION AND ENERGY CREATED BY THE JUXTAPOSITION OF OLD AND NEW, MODERN ART AND PERIOD DETAIL"*



Amanda created a dining nook that's connected to the kitchen. She colour drenched the space in a blue-grey pulled from the painting over the sofa in the living room. ***Pendant,*** *Soho Home;* ***table,*** *The Unstyled House; vintage* ***chairs,*** *The Spotlight Market.*

> *"HERE, EVERY HOME YOU GO INTO IS EXTREMELY DIFFERENT — IT HAS QUIRKS, ITS OWN UNIQUE ASPECTS. YOU LEARN TO USE THE IDIOSYNCRASIES OF A SPACE RATHER THAN APPROACH THEM AS A HINDRANCE"*



Porcelain for the counters and backsplash is a practical alternative to marble. ***Sconces,*** *Soho Home;* ***porcelain,*** *Marble Granite Limestone Warehouse;* ***faucet,*** *Lusso.*

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“The moment we stepped inside the flat, we knew it was our future home,” she recalls of their first viewing. “What resonated with me were the double-height ceilings, original cornicing and tiled fireplace. You could immediately feel the grandeur of these rooms.” That said, though the couple was keen to preserve these charming historical details, a house with a past requires an owner who can imagine its future.

“The builder and contractor arrived the week after we got the keys,” says Amanda with a laugh — she had already been working on her design plan for three months. The goal: To transform the outdated interior while preserving its soul.

She had a long wish list. “Many homes in London are divided into lots of little rooms, but we wanted an open plan that would be conducive to cooking and having friends over, as we love to entertain,” she says. Luckily, a previous owner had already removed many interior walls, but the space was poorly used, particularly in the cramped kitchen. Amanda set out to improve the flow and blend the home’s architectural heritage with contemporary comforts, including new panelling, wiring and oak herringbone floors with underfloor heating.

Dreaming up the decorating was the fun part. The look Amanda envisioned for her home was one that felt sophisticated and joyful. "I love the tension and energy created by the juxtaposition of old and new, modern art and period detail," she says. The first thing they bought for the flat — a painting they commissioned from Philip Maltman, an artist whose work they admired — proved to be the catalyst for the overall palette: a balance of neutral and vibrant hues.

In London, Amanda has found an abundance of beautiful things and plenty of inspiration. "The city is such a design hub," she says. "We have access to some truly amazing suppliers from all over Europe. As a designer, it's an exciting place to be because, unlike all the new-builds with similar features in Canada, here, every home you go into is extremely different — it has quirks, its own unique aspects. You learn to use the idiosyncrasies of a space rather than approach them as a hindrance. And designers are very supportive of each other, in part because clients are asking for lots of different styles. There's not just one London look, so there's room for everyone."

Amanda and Oliver love their home; they say it encapsulates who they are and doesn't look like anyone else's. But, like any designer, Amanda can't wait to plan the next one. "Oliver used to say he just wanted to find the furniture in the same place when he came home, but now we're both ready for a new adventure." H&H

BY THE NUMBERS

Distance from Portobello Road Market: **2-minute walk**

Age of townhouse: **Circa-1900**

Flat size: **1,500 square feet; 2 floors, 3 bedrooms**

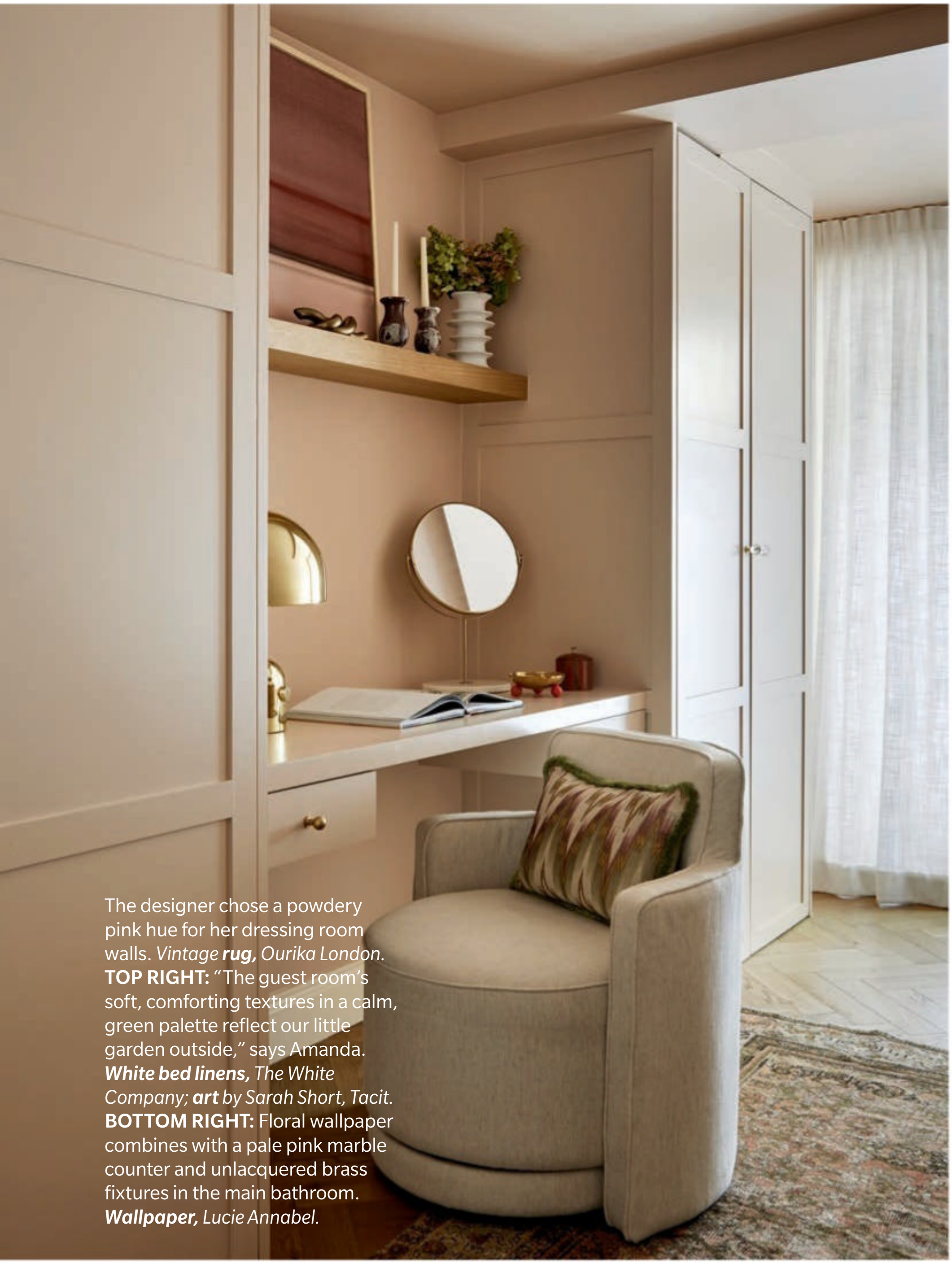
Main-floor ceiling height: **14 feet**

Renovation start: **2023**

Renovation finish: **9 months later**

Number of different kinds of stone used: **10**

Since most homes of this era have no built-in closet space, Amanda added a large, custom-made wardrobe in the principal bedroom. **TOP LEFT:** The crisp blue and white palette creates the feeling of an oasis of calm. ***Bed frame, nightstand,*** *Soho Home;* ***art*** *by Kristina Schmidt.*



The designer chose a powdery pink hue for her dressing room walls. *Vintage* ***rug,*** *Ourika London.* **TOP RIGHT:** "The guest room's soft, comforting textures in a calm, green palette reflect our little garden outside," says Amanda. ***White bed linens,*** *The White Company;* ***art*** *by Sarah Short, Tacit.* **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Floral wallpaper combines with a pale pink marble counter and unlacquered brass fixtures in the main bathroom. ***Wallpaper,*** *Lucie Annabel.*

AMANDA'S TIPS FOR BRINGING FRESH STYLE TO A VICTORIAN TOWNHOUSE

BE OPEN TO CHANGES. I initially envisioned the nook as an office but, during the reno, we realized that, with banquette seating, it would be perfect for entertaining. Even the best-laid plans should allow for flexibility.

WATTS UP. Many century homes like ours lack natural light. Since we were rewiring, we layered our lighting, incorporating overhead, wall and freestanding lights to ensure a warm, adaptable atmosphere.

USE ART TO INSPIRE YOUR PALETTE. Find a piece of art that resonates with you — a colour or a feeling — and use it to spark your palette, creating a consistent design thread throughout your home.

MAKE YOUR OWN ART GALLERY. Crisp white walls give you a blank canvas that won't clash with your art. We painted absolutely everything — ceilings, baseboards and walls — for a contemporary look.

MIX UP THE ELEMENTS. We prioritized an eclectic mix of materials for the warmth and interest it adds. If you're using natural stone, be ready to embrace the beauty of stains and wear and tear.

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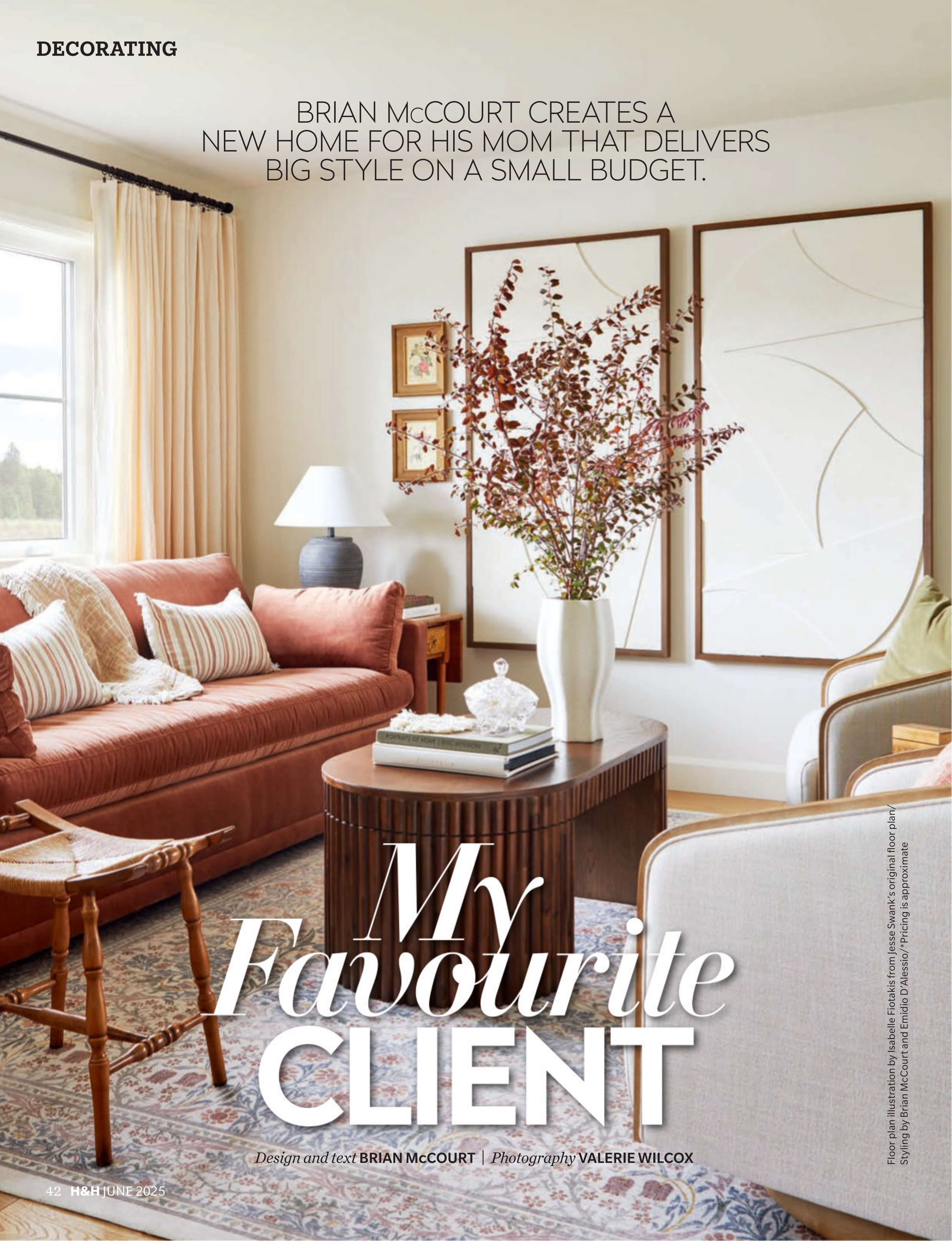
BRIAN McCOURT CREATES A NEW HOME FOR HIS MOM THAT DELIVERS BIG STYLE ON A SMALL BUDGET.



My Favourite CLIENT

Design and text **BRIAN McCOURT** | *Photography* **VALERIE WILCOX**

Floor plan illustration by Isabelle Fiotakis from Jesse Swank's original floor plan/
Styling by Brian McCourt and Emidio D'Alessio/*Pricing is approximate

Designer Brian McCourt with his mom, Jennine McCourt, in the kitchen. **OPPOSITE:** The inviting living room has comfortable seating accented with wood pieces, all layered with soft drapes, textiles and art. ***Drapes,*** *Ikea;* ***table lamp,*** *The Home Depot Canada;* ***swivel chairs,*** *Light House Co.;* ***coffee table, vase,*** *HomeSense;* ***stool,*** *Facebook Marketplace;* ***rug,*** *Ruggable.*

WHAT THEY SPENT*

- House purchase price: **$430,000**
- Finishing/customization (including materials): **$37,800**
- Furniture and decorating accents: **$16,149**

TOTAL: $483,949

KEY COSTS*

LIVING ROOM:

- Custom sofa bed: **$4,500**
- Swivel chairs: **$2,400/pair**
- Rug: **$779**
- Coffee table: **$399**
- Table lamps: **$258**
- Drapery panels: **$240**
- Side table: **$149**
- Drapery rings: **$60**
- Drapery rod: **$50**
- Vase: **$29**
- Stools: **$25/pair**

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Reno Details

Brian designed vent hood cladding that opens to reveal spice storage!

Brian's tile choice brings a fun pattern to the principal bathroom

Deep spruce–hued siding and stonework define the charming exterior.

FRIENDLY, WARM, FUN, COLOURFUL AND humble are words that describe not only my mom's new home, but my mom, Jennine McCourt, herself. I suppose that's what we designers strive for — to create interiors that reflect the people who live there.

After my dad passed, we needed to sell the family home and find something simple, special and manageable for my mom so she could focus on her community instead of a property that was too big for her.

We found this mid-construction, 1,200-square-foot home in Morrisburg, Ont., where my mom has spent most of her life, for $430K. It had the most perfect compact layout: small enough for her day-to-day life but open enough to host family get-togethers. An hour after viewing the place, we found ourselves signing the paperwork with a move-in date just over three months later. We needed to quickly put together a design plan that included tile, hardwood flooring, faucets, sinks,

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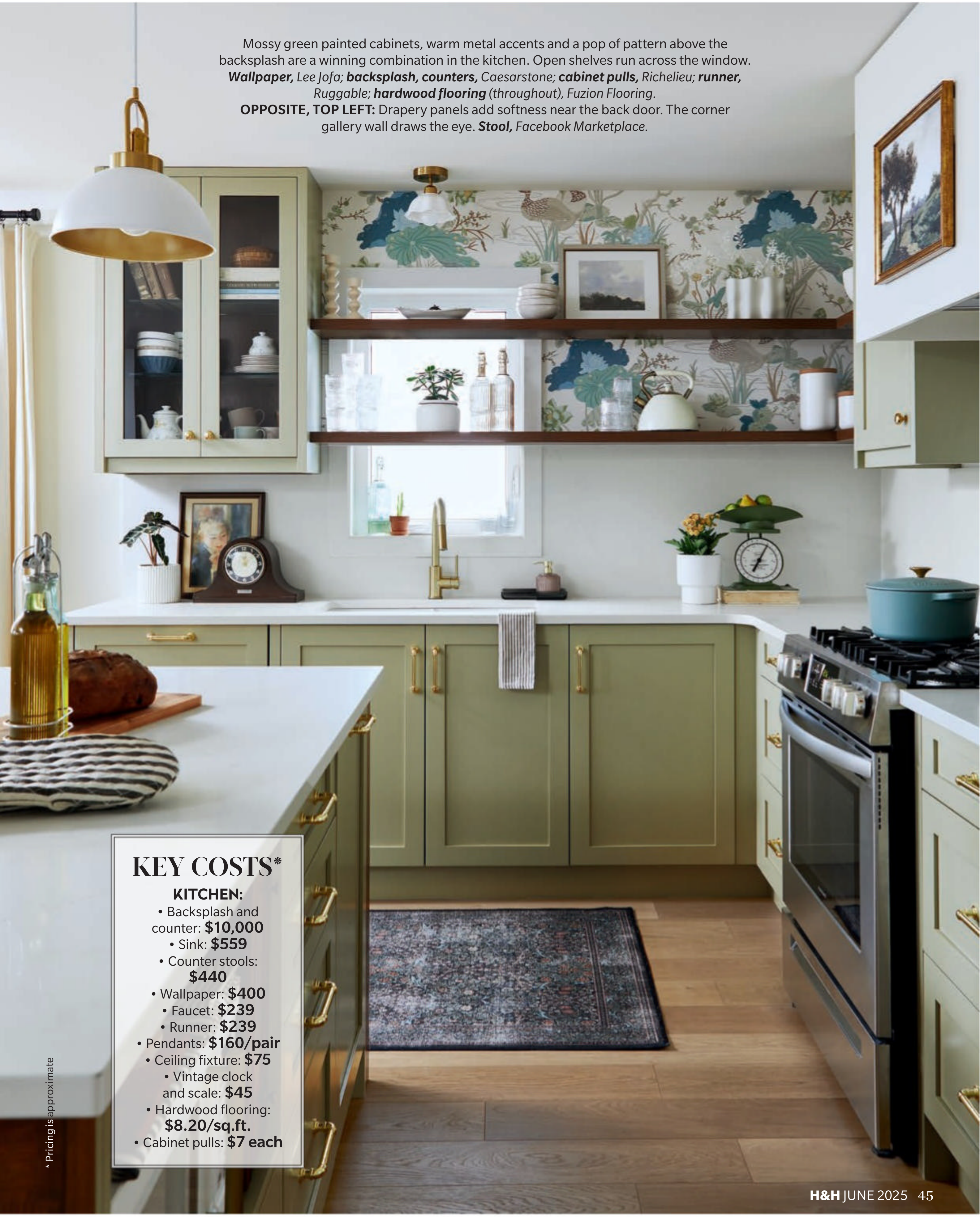


Mossy green painted cabinets, warm metal accents and a pop of pattern above the backsplash are a winning combination in the kitchen. Open shelves run across the window. ***Wallpaper,*** *Lee Jofa;* ***backsplash, counters,*** *Caesarstone;* ***cabinet pulls,*** *Richelieu;* ***runner,*** *Ruggable;* ***hardwood flooring*** *(throughout), Fuzion Flooring.*

OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT: Drapery panels add softness near the back door. The corner gallery wall draws the eye. ***Stool,*** *Facebook Marketplace.*

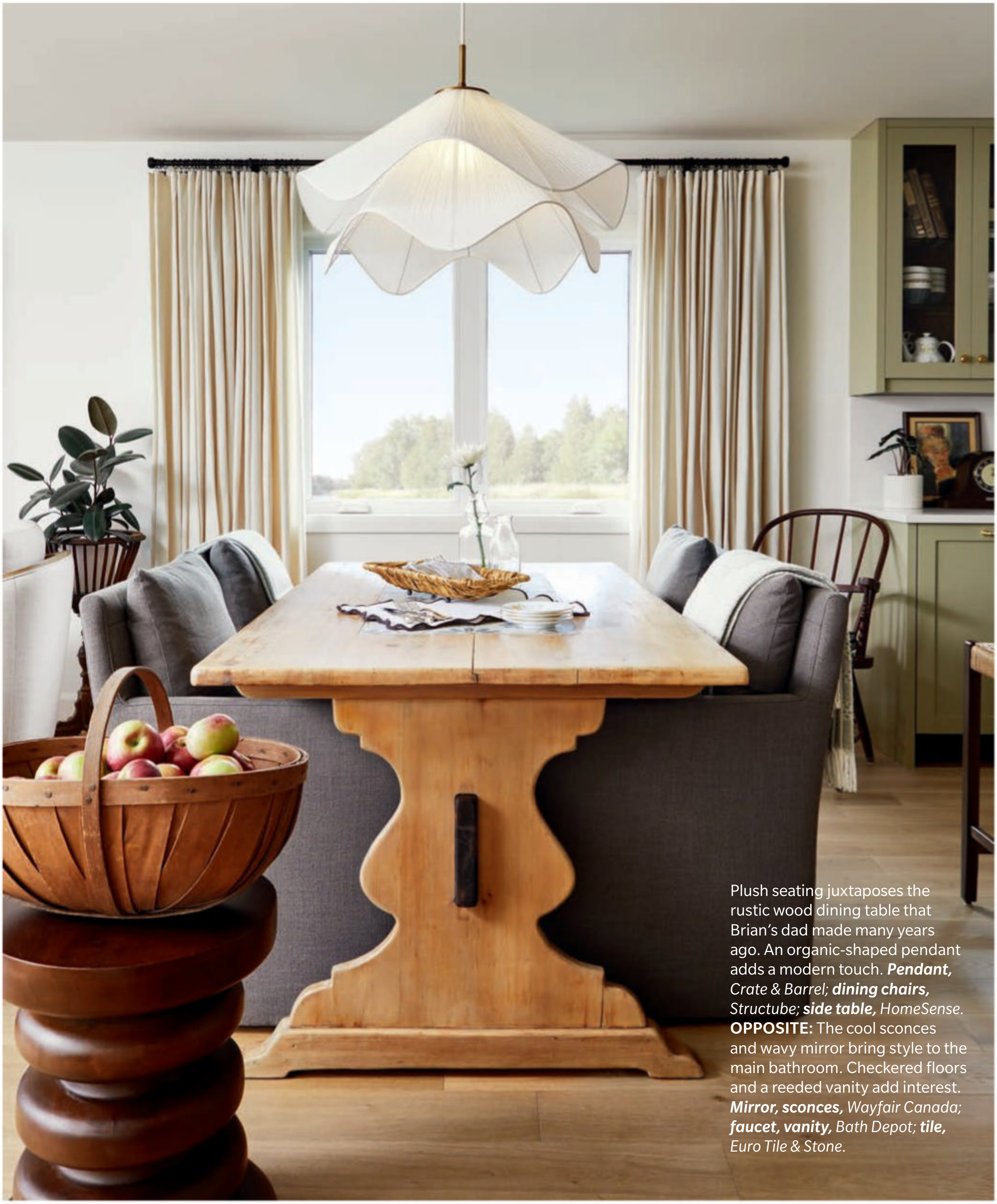
KEY COSTS*

KITCHEN:

- Backsplash and counter: **$10,000**
- Sink: **$559**
- Counter stools: **$440**
- Wallpaper: **$400**
- Faucet: **$239**
- Runner: **$239**
- Pendants: **$160/pair**
- Ceiling fixture: **$75**
- Vintage clock and scale: **$45**
- Hardwood flooring: **$8.20/sq.ft.**
- Cabinet pulls: **$7 each**

* Pricing is approximate

"IT WAS A NEW BEGINNING FOR ME, AND I WAS GRATEFUL TO BRIAN FOR LEADING THE PROJECT — I SAW WHAT WAS IN FRONT OF ME, BUT HE SAW BEYOND" — Jennine McCourt



Plush seating juxtaposes the rustic wood dining table that Brian's dad made many years ago. An organic-shaped pendant adds a modern touch. ***Pendant,*** *Crate & Barrel;* ***dining chairs,*** *Structube;* ***side table,*** *HomeSense.* **OPPOSITE:** The cool sconces and wavy mirror bring style to the main bathroom. Checkered floors and a reeded vanity add interest. ***Mirror, sconces,*** *Wayfair Canada;* ***faucet, vanity,*** *Bath Depot;* ***tile,*** *Euro Tile & Stone.*

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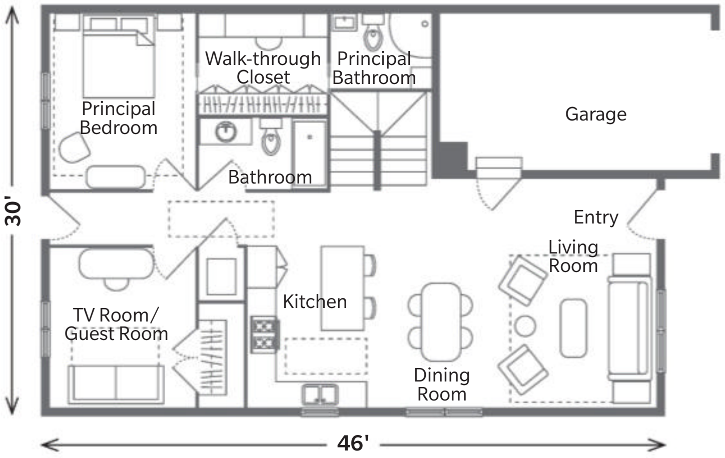
Floor plan



mouldings, doors, trim, handles, lighting and all of the other finishing elements for the new-build. From my mom: “This home fit my downsizing needs, the neighbours were great, the walls were soundproof and there was proximity to shopping. It was a new beginning for me, and I was grateful to Brian for leading the project — I saw what was in front of me, but he saw beyond.”

We didn’t waste a minute and got right to work. We merged the renovation finishes and furnishing-decorating selections into one schedule so that every room could be furnished, finished and fabulous — fast! I started by marking key dates for when our first phase of renovation materials needed to be on-site (hardwood, tile, plumbing fixtures), and then I prioritized selecting the long-lead furniture items including the custom sofa, swivel chairs, dining chairs and bed frame.

We had a mini-budget and we were strategic about how we spent it. We invested in the finishes I’ve found to be the most important: counters, hardwood flooring and key upholstery pieces. We went with top-of-the-line Caesarstone counters in the new colour, Aterra Verity; it has natural gold veining that pulls directly from the toasted oak hardwood floors. We found the perfect hardwood colour by Fuzion Flooring; it’s a cosy mid-tone variation that’s light enough to not show a lot of dust and dark enough to not show a lot of dirt. The bronze undertones were perfect for our palette.

We had planned to install fieldstone above the shelves in the kitchen but, by accident, I found this Lee Jofa wallpaper sample in my office that brought the fresh green cabinet colour to life. Small budgets don’t usually have room for high-end wallpaper; we used it sparingly and the pattern pulled the whole look together, so it was well worth it!

This brings me to the economical side of the pendulum — save, save, save! We bought prefab drapery panels from Ikea and installed them with pinch rings to save on window treatments. In the main bathroom, by using two colours

BRIAN’S TIPS FOR DOWNSIZING ON A BUDGET WITHOUT SACRIFICING STYLE

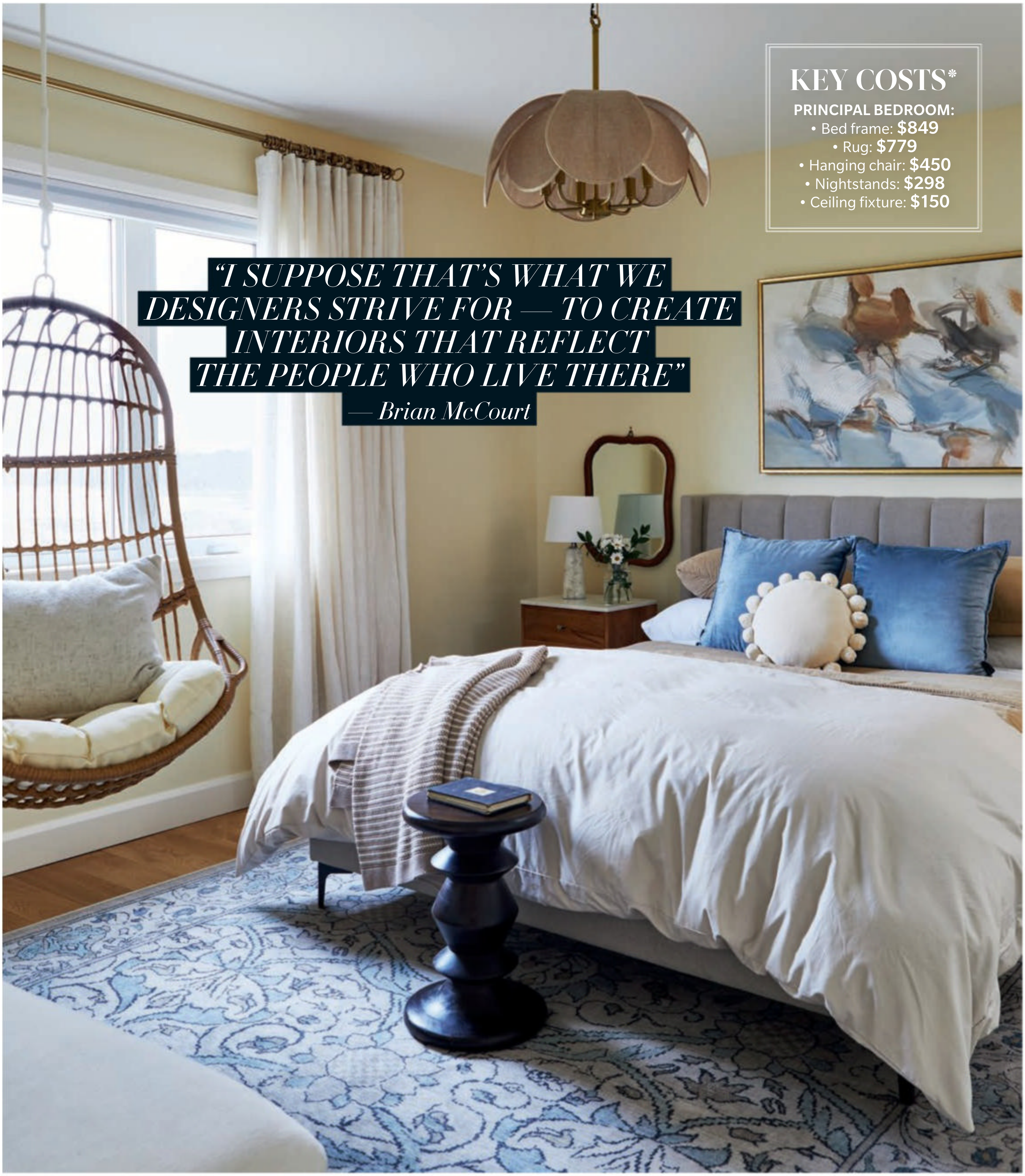
SHOP VINTAGE. I’ve found that small-town shops tend to have unbelievable deals on special finds, and they haven’t been picked over like they have been in the city. It’s a fun weekend activity with friends or family!

GET CREATIVE WITH LEFTOVERS. Use your leftover Caesarstone slab material for tabletops, shelves and vanities, and use prefinished hardwood flooring for feature walls, desks, tables and wall panelling.

DECIDE WHERE YOU’RE GOING TO SPLURGE, AND SAVE ON THE REST. Splurge on the surfaces and furniture that are going to get the most use, then save on accents like your rugs and side tables.

BRING NEW LIFE TO OLD PIECES. Go for the unexpected — update an antique table with a new quartz top, mix a contemporary sofa with character side tables, and pair modern lighting with vintage furniture.

DESIGN MULTIUSE SPACES. The living room has a sofa bed for overnight visitors, and the walk-through closet includes a home office. The TV room also has a sofa bed and becomes a guest room when needed.



KEY COSTS*

PRINCIPAL BEDROOM:

- Bed frame: **$849**
- Rug: **$779**
- Hanging chair: **$450**
- Nightstands: **$298**
- Ceiling fixture: **$150**

> *"I SUPPOSE THAT'S WHAT WE DESIGNERS STRIVE FOR — TO CREATE INTERIORS THAT REFLECT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE"*
>
> *— Brian McCourt*

Butter yellow walls and blue accents create a serene palette in Jennine's bedroom. ***Nightstand,*** *HomeSense;* ***rug,*** *Ruggable.*
OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT: The walk-through closet does double duty as a home office area. ***Wardrobes,*** *Ikea;* ***sconce*** *by GluckssteinElements, The Home Depot Canada;* ***desk chair,*** *Facebook Marketplace.*
OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT: A scalloped-edge vessel sink and organic-shaped backsplash are pretty in the ensuite. ***Backsplash, counter,*** *Caesarstone;* ***sink,*** *Bath Depot.*

*Pricing is approximate

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of inexpensive porcelain floor tile laid in a pattern, we created depth and interest. We sourced most of the lighting on a dime but invested more on the dining area pendant to bring personality to the middle of the open-concept space.

Where we got really creative is with the leftover materials from the finishes we splurged on. We used almost every inch of our Caesarstone slabs, dressing up our budget bathroom vanities with beautiful counters and unique backsplashes.

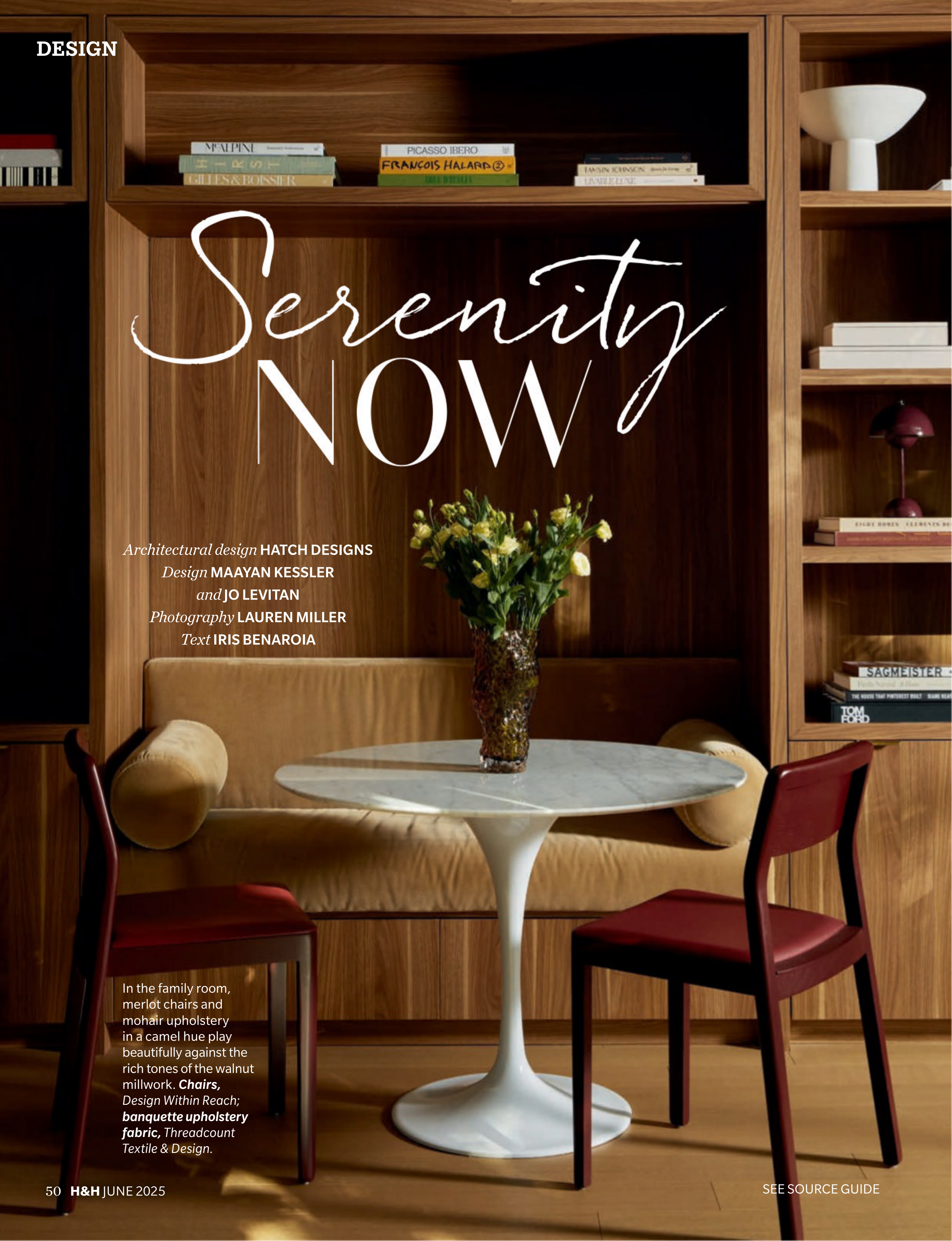
The floor plan had an oversized walk-through principal closet that was far larger than my mom needed. When we installed Ikea's fluted glass–door wardrobes on one side of the closet, it gave us the opportunity to build a home office on the other side with leftover Caesarstone materials for the desktop and leftover hardwood flooring for cladding the walls and wardrobes. This resulted in a custom home office and organized wardrobe storage that only cost a few thousand dollars and a bit of DIY elbow grease — a true testament of beautiful design at an approachable price point.

My mom has 13 grandchildren, so durability was top of mind, too. I didn't want to design a showroom; this was her home, and it was important that our choices would last. We veered away from light upholstery and made sure fabrics and rugs were washable.

In the end, we furnished the place for under $20K with the goal of giving it a warm, comfortable and collected feel. How did we do it? After spending a large portion of our budget on the main upholstery, we bargain-shopped at HomeSense for small tables and decorating accents, and visited local flea markets to fill in the gaps of my mom's lifelong collection.

For the dining area, I refinished the trestle dining table my dad made nearly 50 years ago. My dad made most of our furniture, and this table was one of his early creations from before I was born. Every nick, mark and scratch etched in the table is a product of my childhood, and it was important to me that I didn't sand all of those stories off the surface. The original design had an inlay of tile in the centre, which made a practical trivet for hot food for a family of nine. I found a charming patterned tile that coordinated with the home's palette and refinished the wood to complement the hardwood floors. It was a special project for me because, in a way, my dad and I have made this table together, just many years apart.

It's been a year of major transitions for my mom, and it hasn't been easy, but I'm so happy to see her in this home, designed just for her, in a community she loves. From my mom: "I love coming home to a warm setting that's easy to clean, bright and personalized in such a way that only Brian could see. I feel so very spoiled. It's difficult to explain, but the place is sprinkled with my husband's talent, his love and the life we built together. Brian brought all this home for me and it made me feel OK to be happy. When I thought I was done, he opened a door and the light shone in." H&H



Serenity NOW

Architectural design **HATCH DESIGNS**
Design **MAAYAN KESSLER**
and **JO LEVITAN**
Photography **LAUREN MILLER**
Text **IRIS BENAROIA**

In the family room, merlot chairs and mohair upholstery in a camel hue play beautifully against the rich tones of the walnut millwork. ***Chairs,*** *Design Within Reach;* ***banquette upholstery fabric,*** *Threadcount Textile & Design.*

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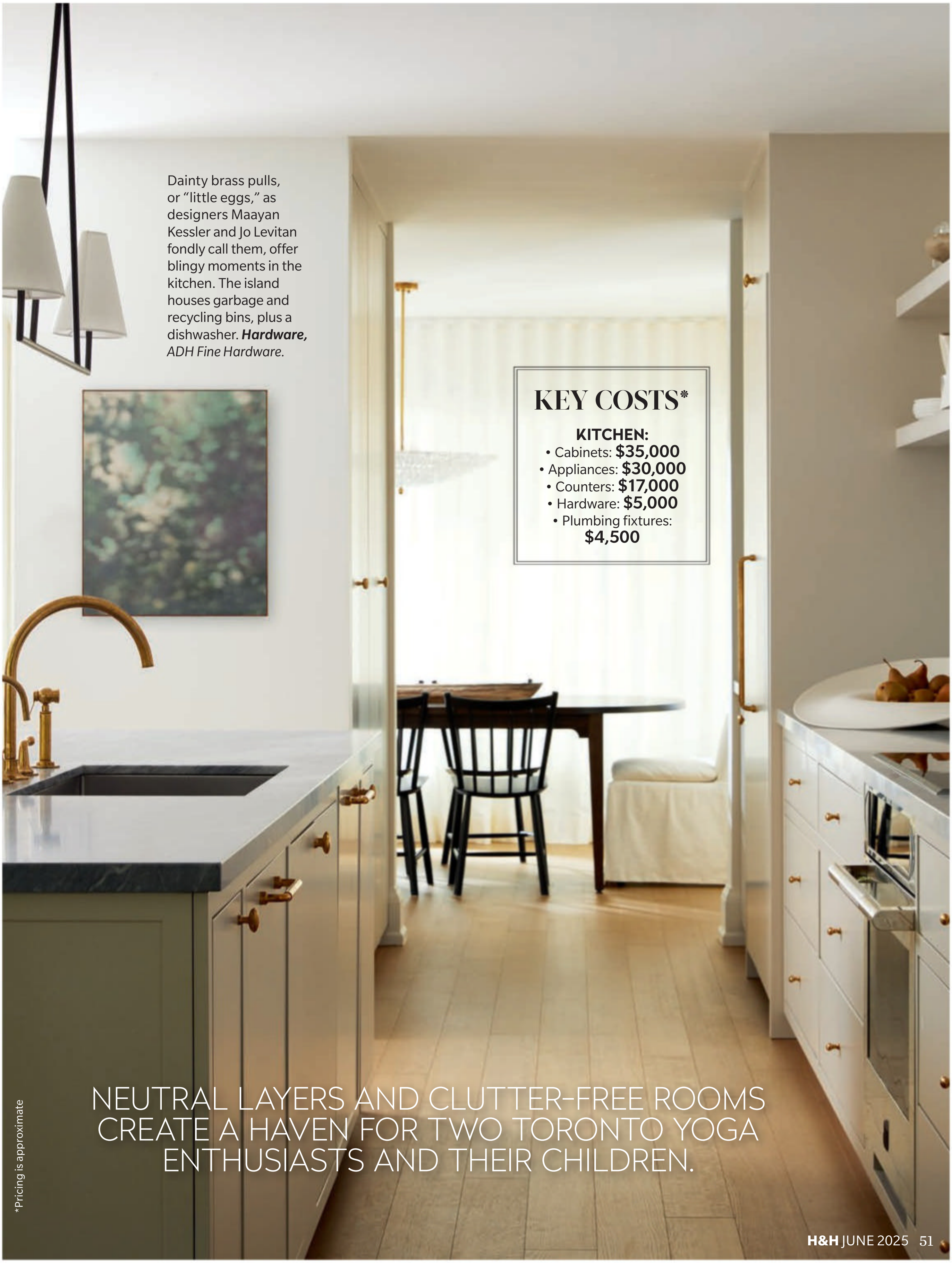


Dainty brass pulls, or “little eggs,” as designers Maayan Kessler and Jo Levitan fondly call them, offer blingy moments in the kitchen. The island houses garbage and recycling bins, plus a dishwasher. ***Hardware,*** *ADH Fine Hardware.*

KEY COSTS*

KITCHEN:

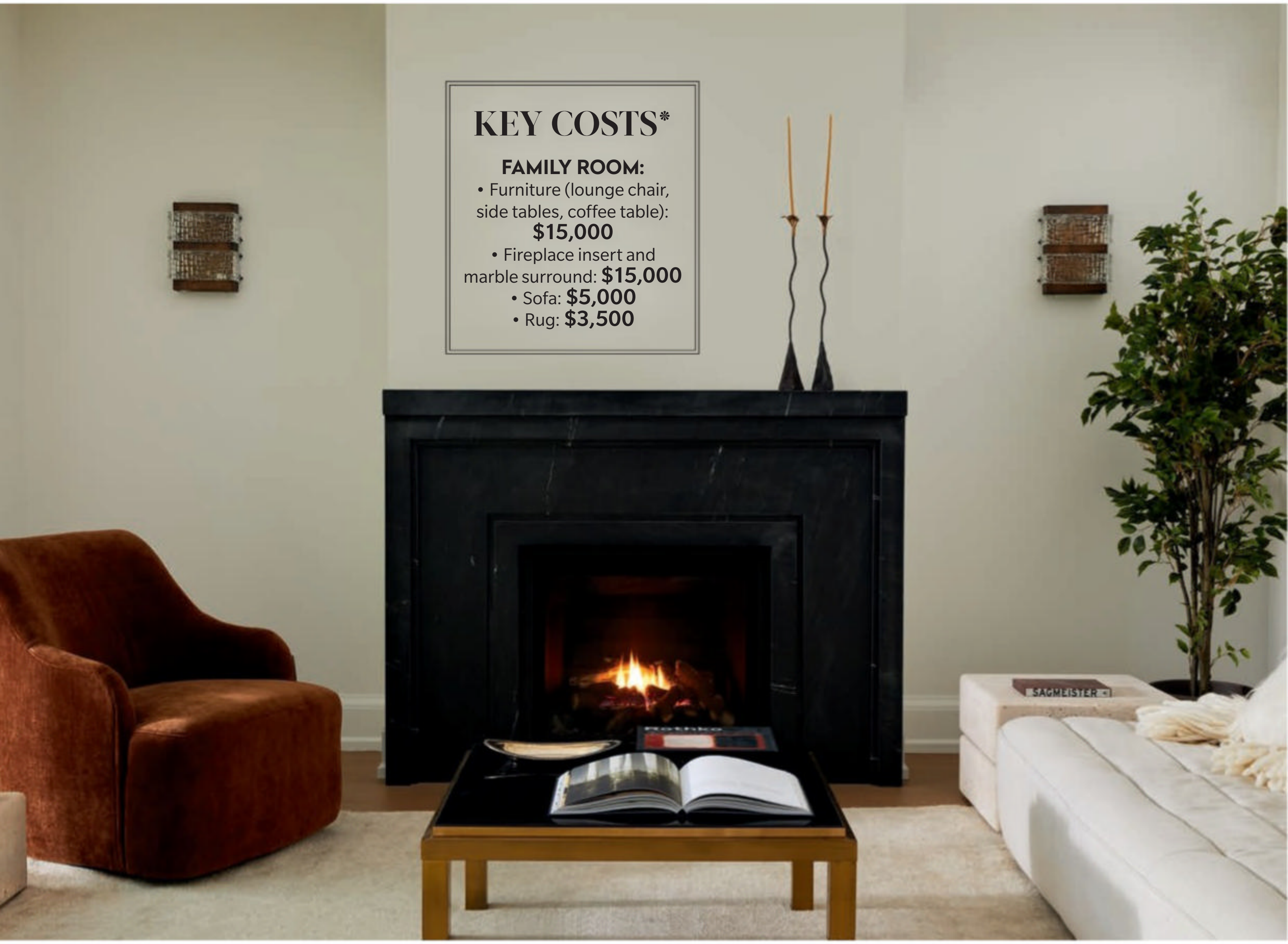
- Cabinets: **$35,000**
- Appliances: **$30,000**
- Counters: **$17,000**
- Hardware: **$5,000**
- Plumbing fixtures: **$4,500**

NEUTRAL LAYERS AND CLUTTER-FREE ROOMS CREATE A HAVEN FOR TWO TORONTO YOGA ENTHUSIASTS AND THEIR CHILDREN.

*Pricing is approximate

"ONE CLIENT ALWAYS HAS A CUP OF TEA IN HAND, AND THERE'S ALWAYS PEACEFUL MUSIC PLAYING. THEY VALUE ENERGY AND CALMNESS"

– Jo Levitan, designer



KEY COSTS*

FAMILY ROOM:

- Furniture (lounge chair, side tables, coffee table): **$15,000**
- Fireplace insert and marble surround: **$15,000**
- Sofa: **$5,000**
- Rug: **$3,500**

GETTING WHAT YOU WANT from a reno takes time, as a professional couple discovered after buying their circa-1860, 2,000-square-foot, three-bedroom home in Toronto's idyllic Wychwood Park neighbourhood. The woodland views and pond proximity were pure magic in this midtown location, but the house needed work. The owners, who have two young kids, decided to "test-drive" the place for a full year before making any structural changes. "They wanted to live in the house's quirks before renovating," says Jo Levitan, co-designer with Maayan Kessler at Kessler Levitan Design, the design firm hired for the project.

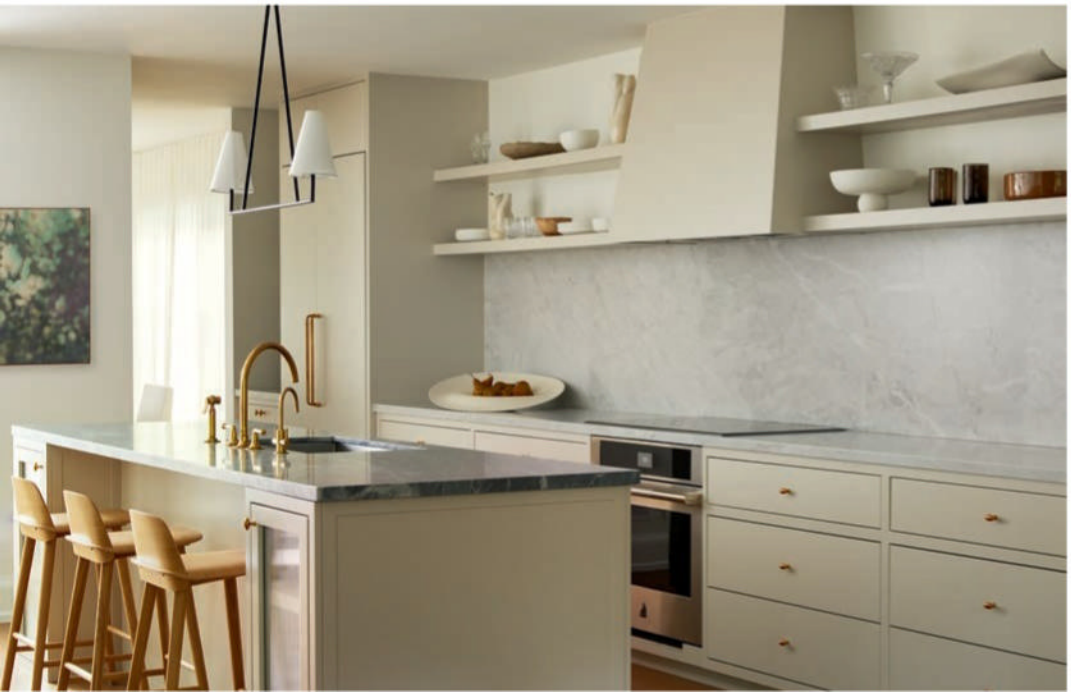
When they got the green-light in 2022, Jo and Maayan along with architectural design firm Hatch Designs embarked on the extensive renovation, having the faulty wiring and bad plumbing replaced and redoing the quirkier elements including a kooky, all-pink bathroom and a bedroom wrapped entirely in cedar. The decorating look the clients wanted? Shoulder-dropping serenity that leaned in to natural materials like marble and wood, and minimal accessories. "To paint a picture, they love yoga," says Jo. "One client always has a cup of tea in hand, and there's always peaceful music playing. They value energy and calmness." Maayan adds: "They were looking for a scheme with muted colours in a neutral palette."

*Pricing is approximate

A low-slung sofa layered with textured throw pillows creates an inviting lounge spot in the family room.

TAMSIN JOHNSON
LIVABLE LUXE
EIGHT HOMES
TOM FORD

Designers Maayan Kessler (*left*) and Jo Levitan.



CENTRE LEFT: A reeded glass cabinet tucked under the island is a storage opportunity that adds texture. "For other clients, we wouldn't do it because we'd see reusable water bottles through the glass," says Jo. "We were confident they would keep it looking nice." **BOTTOM LEFT:** Framed flat-panel kitchen cabinets in Benjamin Moore's Edgecomb Gray and a Carrara marble slab backsplash are contrasted by the darker Bardiglio marble counter on the island. ***Stools,*** *Design Within Reach;* ***faucet*** *by Waterworks, Ginger's.* **OPPOSITE:** Original mid-century Italian Murano sconces flank the fireplace. The new gas insert with a custom Nero Marquina marble surround is a striking focal point. ***Fireplace surround,*** *Stone Tile;* ***armchair,*** *Mkt;* ***coffee table,*** *Elte.*

The family room's walnut banquette is cosy, and the millwork offers sleek display space.

RIGHT: Reeded glass doors flood the front entry with light while Bardiglio and Carrara marble floors heighten the drama. ***Bench,*** *Elte;* ***tile,*** *Saltillo Imports.*
BELOW: Linen floor-to-ceiling drapes and a vintage chandelier have an ethereal effect in the dining room. ***Drapery fabric,*** *Threadcount Textile & Design;* ***slipcovered dining chairs,*** *CB2;* ***black dining chairs,*** *Design Within Reach.*

Throughout the rooms, various materials layer in warmth and create a textural punch. "The foyer is checkered in Bardiglio and Carrara marble and it's in the principal bathroom as well, for contrast," says Jo. "Those stones together are a recurring theme throughout the home. We played with the palette by bringing in slight variations on the neutrals for depth." Another standout moment is the walnut banquette in the family room with its camel mohair cushions and the new gas fireplace bordered by honed, black Nero Marquina marble.

The bolder choices took some convincing, though. "Anything a shade darker than cream was a push," says Jo with a laugh, noting that she needed to nudge the clients toward the rich tones on the banquette and

SEE SOURCE GUIDE

MAAYAN AND JO'S TIPS FOR CREATING CALMING, CONTEMPORARY INTERIORS

START WITH A WHITE BACKDROP. Pale walls reflect light and allow other elements such as textiles, plants and art to stand out.

CREATE TECH-FREE ZONES. Have places where there are minimal electronics to promote a feeling of tranquillity. Closed storage is also essential for keeping spaces airy and clutter free.

USE NATURAL MATERIALS. Wood and stone bring warmth and texture to a space, imparting an authenticity that feels good to be around and has longevity.

LAYER YOUR LIGHTING. Use a combination of central fixtures, sconces and lamps with 2700K lightbulbs — they're warmer than the bright white you'd find in an office — and make sure every fixture is on a dimmer to create ambience.

SIMPLIFY THE LAYOUT AND CHOOSE FURNITURE WISELY. Give each piece breathing room, and avoid overcrowding the room with unnecessary furniture and accessories. Opt for seating and accents that encourage slowing down, like a comfortable sofa.

ABOVE: A console in the entry is a handy drop zone for keys and mail. ***Mirror,*** *Etsy;* ***vases,*** *Mkt.*
LEFT: Textured fabrics and a low bed are perfect for one of the couple's young kids. ***Bed frame,*** *EQ3;* ***side tables,*** *Ikea;* ***rug,*** *Nordic Knots;* ***art,*** *Upton.*
BELOW: The powder room's freestanding vanity with polished nickel legs has timeless appeal. ***Faucet,*** *Roman Bath Centre;* ***vanity,*** *Kingston Brass.*

WEB To see another elegant home by Maayan and Jo, visit **houseandhome.com/june2025**

TOP LEFT: The principal shower is clad in large-format Bardiglio marble tile for a spellbinding look. ***Shower tile,*** *Ciot.*
BOTTOM LEFT: In the ensuite, a substantial bullnose-edge marble counter has presence.
BELOW: A bank of closets includes a hidden door that opens to the principal bathroom. ***Hardware,*** *ADH Fine Hardware.*

the colourful chairs. But taking their design advice paid off. “The fireplace surprised me,” says one owner. “We went with black marble and a more traditional design, fully trusting Jo and Maayan. Now, it’s one of our favourite features in the house.”

Spaces flow seamlessly into each other, giving the home a serene ambience, and there’s always a place for a mindful moment. The banquette doubles as a quiet homework spot, and the family room has seen its fair share of downward dogs. “They like practising yoga there because of the natural light,” says Jo. “They just move the table out of the way.”

Now that the renovation is over, the family is content in their sanctuary. “The world is chaotic enough — our home feels like an exhale. Plus, less clutter means less cleaning,” says one owner. Escaping to their principal suite allows the couple to recharge. “Our principal bedroom and bathroom feel like a true retreat. Waking up to the view of Wychwood Park’s treetops is something we never take for granted — it’s the perfect balance of nature and city life, and we feel incredibly lucky to have it.” H&H

SEE SOURCE GUIDE

BY THE NUMBERS

Number of years the renovation took: **1**

Number of Carrara marble blocks the designers sourced before choosing the perfect slab: **12**

Number of putty shades used throughout: **9**

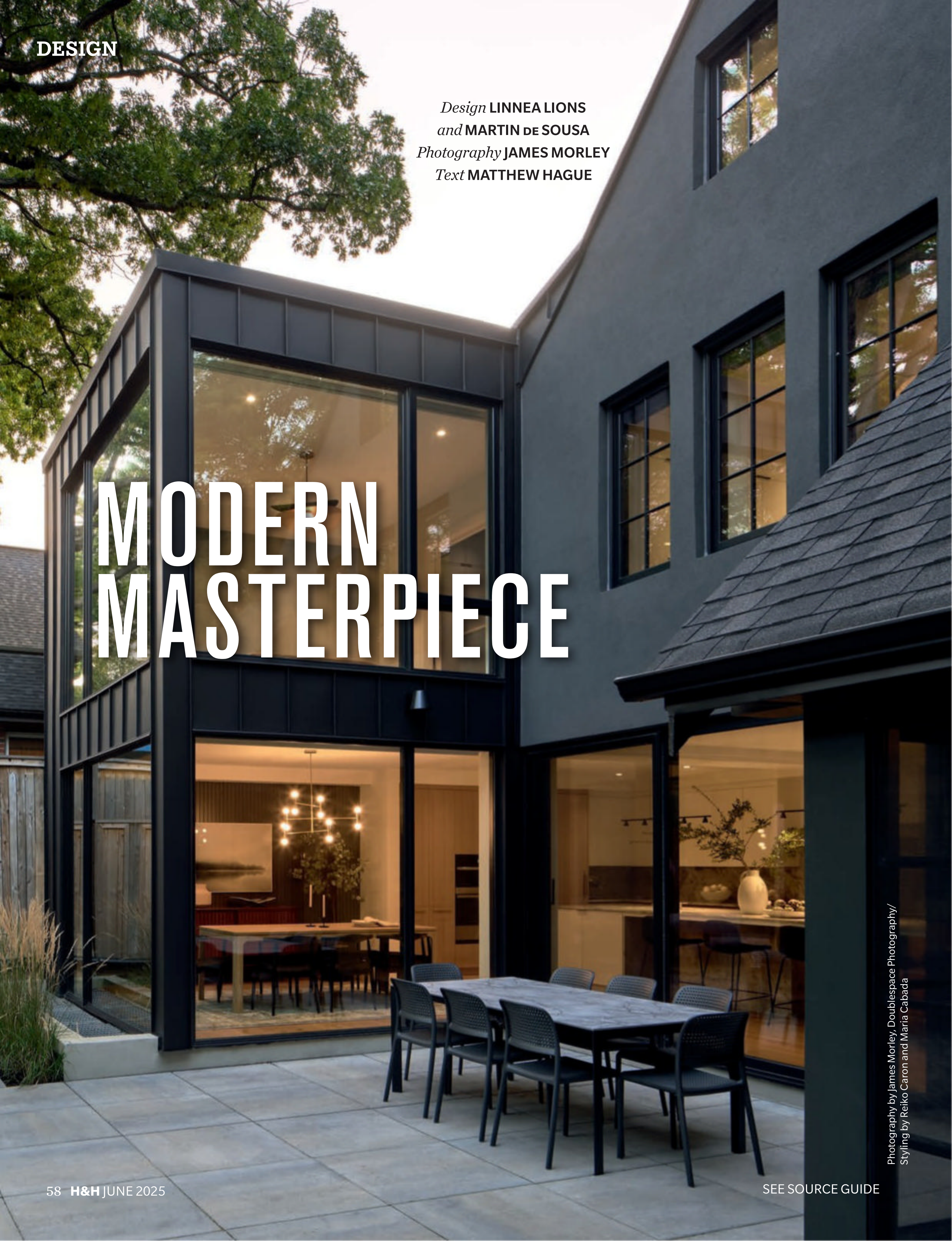
Number of vintage pieces: **8**

The principal bedroom is clean-lined and spare; mohair upholstery and linen drapes bring cosiness. ***Sconce,*** *The Modern Shop;* ***bed frame upholstery and bolster fabric,*** *Threadcount Textile & Design;* ***rug,*** *West Elm;* ***art,*** *Etsy.*

> *"THEY WERE LOOKING FOR A SCHEME WITH MUTED COLOURS IN A NEUTRAL PALETTE"*
>
> *– Maayan Kessler, designer*

Design **LINNEA LIONS**
and **MARTIN DE SOUSA**
Photography **JAMES MORLEY**
Text **MATTHEW HAGUE**

MODERN MASTERPIECE



Photography by James Morley, Doublespace Photography/
Styling by Reiko Caron and Maria Cabada

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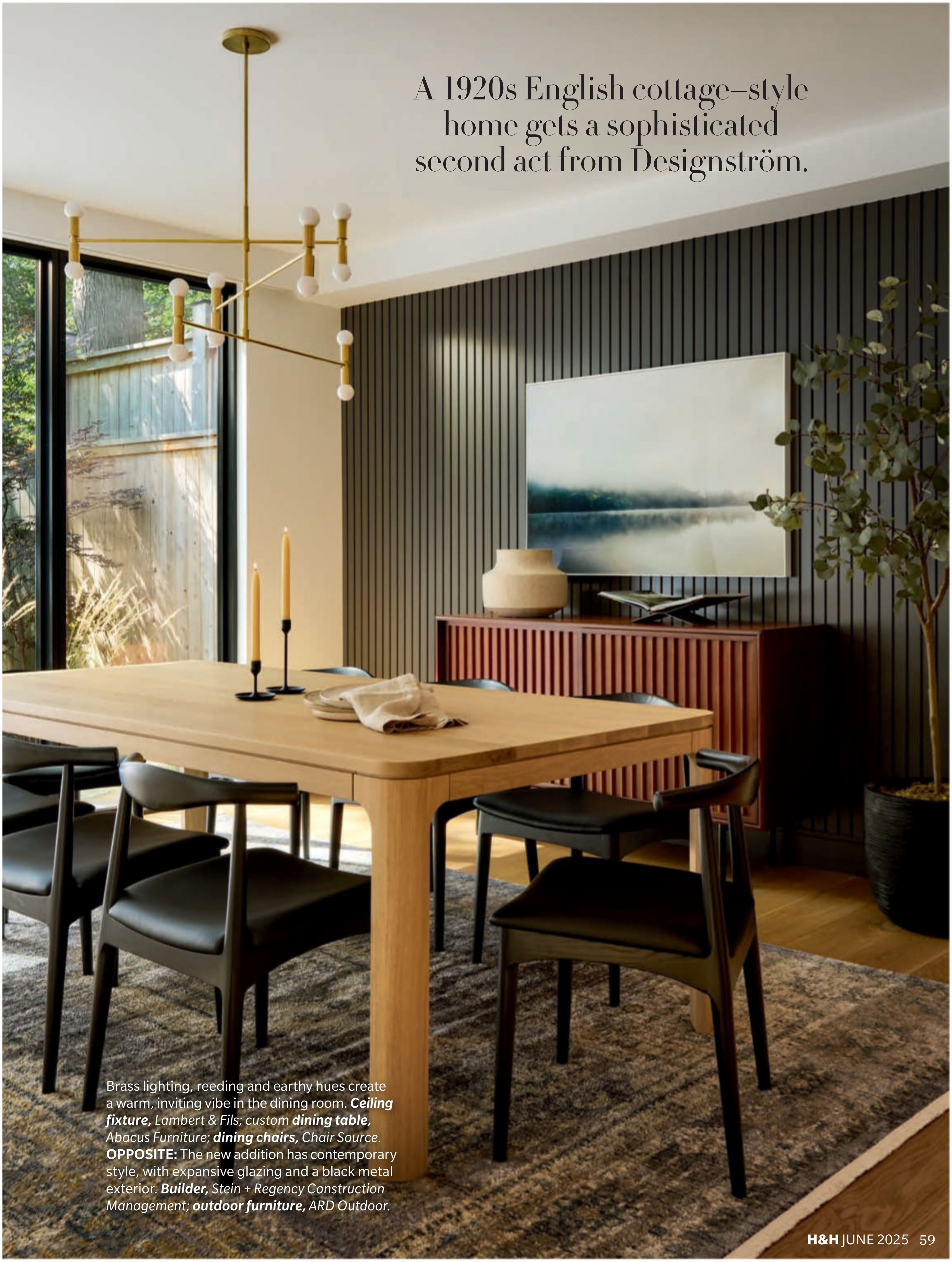
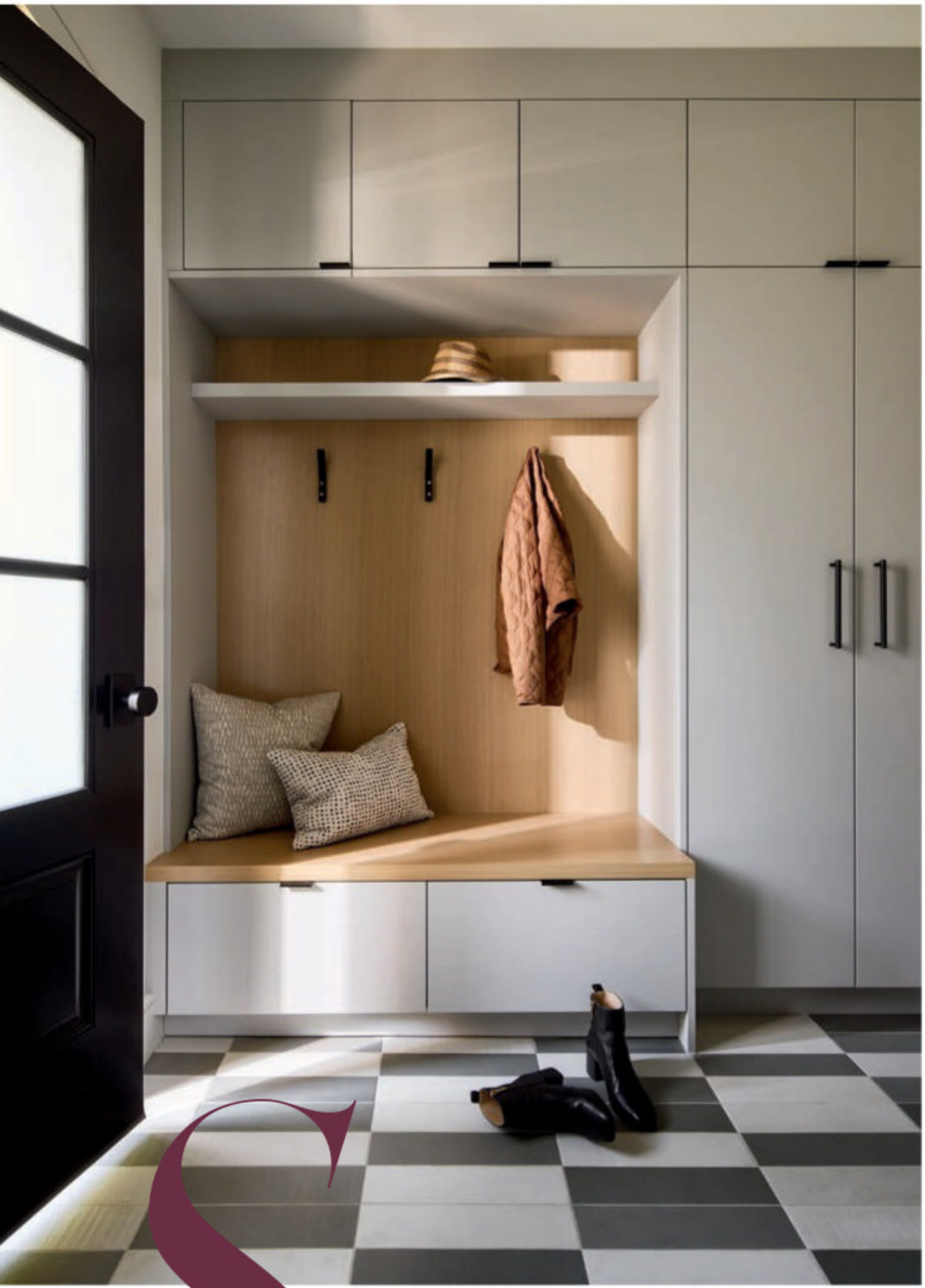
A 1920s English cottage–style home gets a sophisticated second act from Designström.



Brass lighting, reeding and earthy hues create a warm, inviting vibe in the dining room. ***Ceiling fixture,*** *Lambert & Fils; custom* ***dining table,*** *Abacus Furniture;* ***dining chairs,*** *Chair Source.* **OPPOSITE:** The new addition has contemporary style, with expansive glazing and a black metal exterior. ***Builder,*** *Stein + Regency Construction Management;* ***outdoor furniture,*** *ARD Outdoor.*



LEFT: The mudroom's checkered floor and mix of white oak and light grey laminate millwork echo the contrasting tones of the kitchen. ***Tile,*** *Centura Tile.*
OPPOSITE: A streamlined railing nods to the understated Scandi style throughout the home. ***Flush-mount ceiling fixture,*** *Huey Lightshop; custom* ***railing and stairs,*** *Deluxe Stair & Railing; custom* ***bench,*** *Atelier Arking;* ***tile,*** *Ciot.*

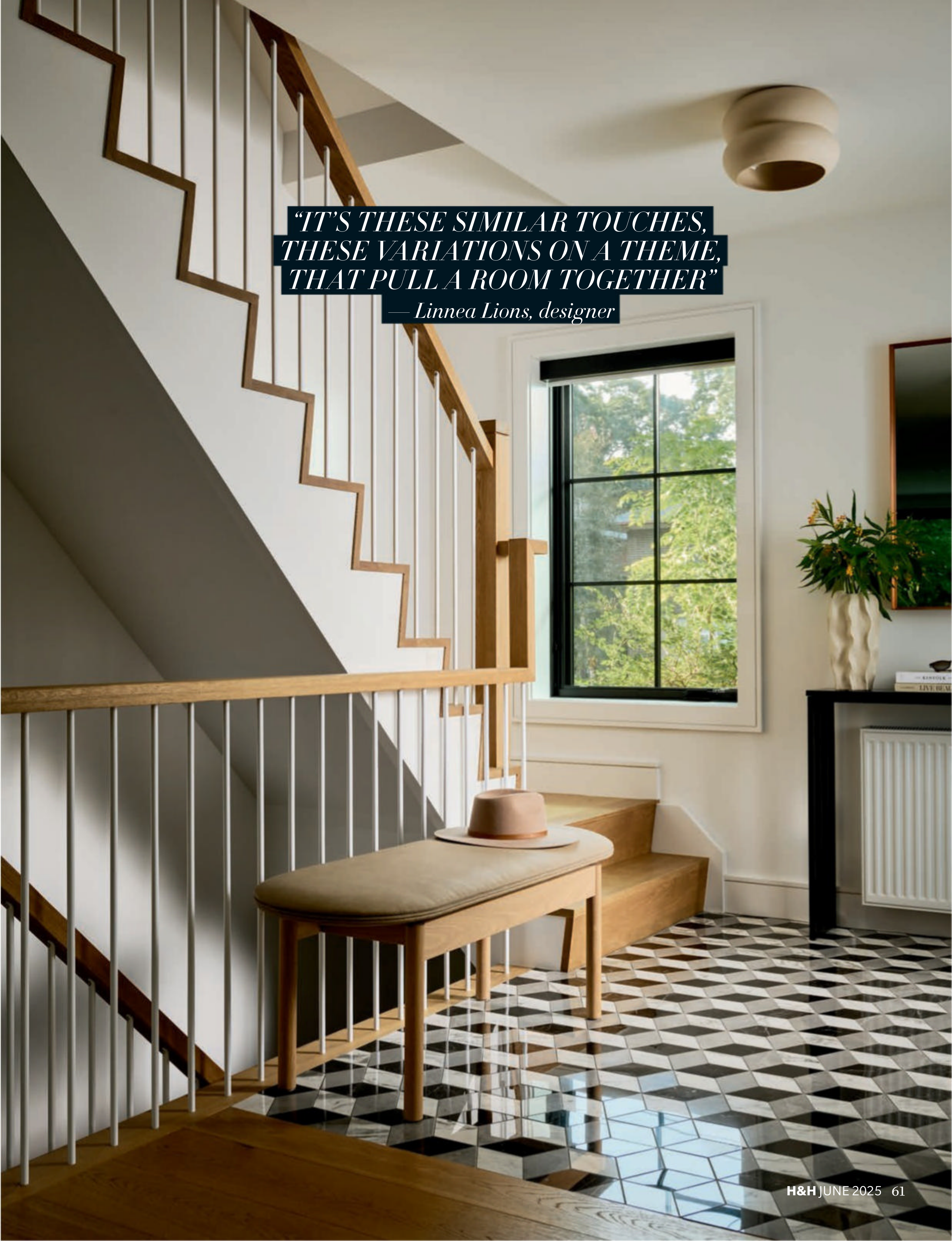
Designers Linnea Lions and Martin de Sousa of Designström.

Portrait photography by Vincent Lions

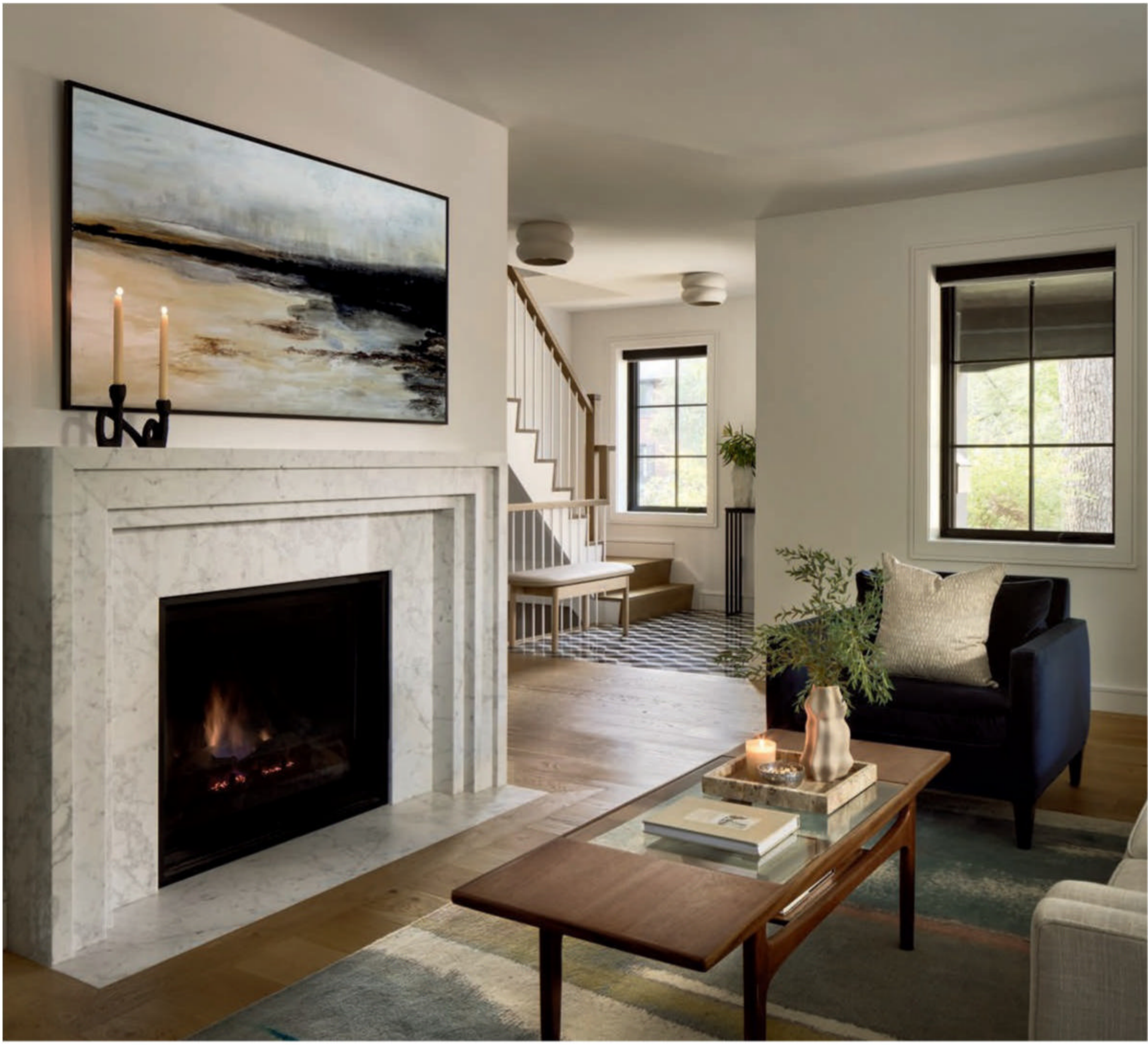
SEAMLESSLY BLENDING OLD and new is one of the trickiest but most essential tasks in any renovation project. When Linnea Lions and Martin de Sousa, the co-founders of Designström, were asked to modernize a 1920s, English cottage–style house in midtown Toronto, they had their work cut out for them.

The homeowners, a professional couple with two boys, wanted to retain the classic character of the exterior with its stucco siding and charming sash windows, but they also wanted to bring in new elements. The addition, for instance, would be modern, with big expanses of glass framed in black metal. "We didn't want the addition to seem like it was simply tacked on," says Martin. So they painted out the original stucco, which was a washed-out grey. "We chose a darker colour to give the house and addition a cohesive look," says Linnea. "The black exterior looks beautiful against the green of the trees in the summer and blends nicely into the corner lot."

The interiors presented their own challenges. The pre-renovation house was dated and in need of an update, reflecting every bit of its 100 years. "We had to do some structural work to level all the floors and ceilings, and the joists needed sistering to connect the original structure to the addition," says Linnea. Construction took nearly 18 months because of the scope and the complexity of the project. (The overall design took around two and a half years due to pandemic challenges and delays at the permit office.)



> *“IT’S THESE SIMILAR TOUCHES, THESE VARIATIONS ON A THEME, THAT PULL A ROOM TOGETHER”*
>
> *— Linnea Lions, designer*



Fortunately, the floor plan didn't need a drastic overhaul. "The main entrance, living room and stairs all stayed where they were," says Linnea. "We relocated the kitchen to the addition, which allowed for a larger dining room, a proper mudroom and a new powder room on the main floor." Upstairs, the principal bedroom also moved into the addition, and a new ensuite and dressing room were created. "The dressing room skylight allows sunlight to shine down on the millwork," says Martin. "It's so peaceful; it's one of my favourite moments in the house."

Because very little of the original 1920s aesthetic could be salvaged, Linnea and Martin decided to decorate in a more modern style. Modern for Designström leans toward Scandinavian — Linnea is originally from Stockholm —

ABOVE: Linnea designed the marble fireplace surround in the living room with a modern but timeless look that still works with the clients' existing mid-century coffee table and seating.
OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT: Textured wall tile gives the ensuite depth and dimension. ***Tile,*** *Euro Tile & Stone;* ***sconces,*** *Cedar & Moss;* ***counter,*** *Cosentino.*
OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT: An off-white vanity and counter is a quiet backdrop for the punchy Palm Jungle wallpaper in the new powder room. ***Pendant*** *by Pablo Designs, Design Within Reach;* ***wallpaper*** *by Cole & Son, Kravet Canada;* ***counter,*** *Caesarstone; custom* ***vanity,*** *Wood Studio.*
OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT: The newly painted dark exterior is striking on the corner property, which boasts stately mature trees.

SEE SOURCE GUIDE

"THE BLACK EXTERIOR LOOKS BEAUTIFUL AGAINST THE GREEN OF THE TREES IN THE SUMMER" — Linnea Lions

LINNEA AND MARTIN'S RENO TIPS FOR MODERNIZING A HOME WITH HERITAGE

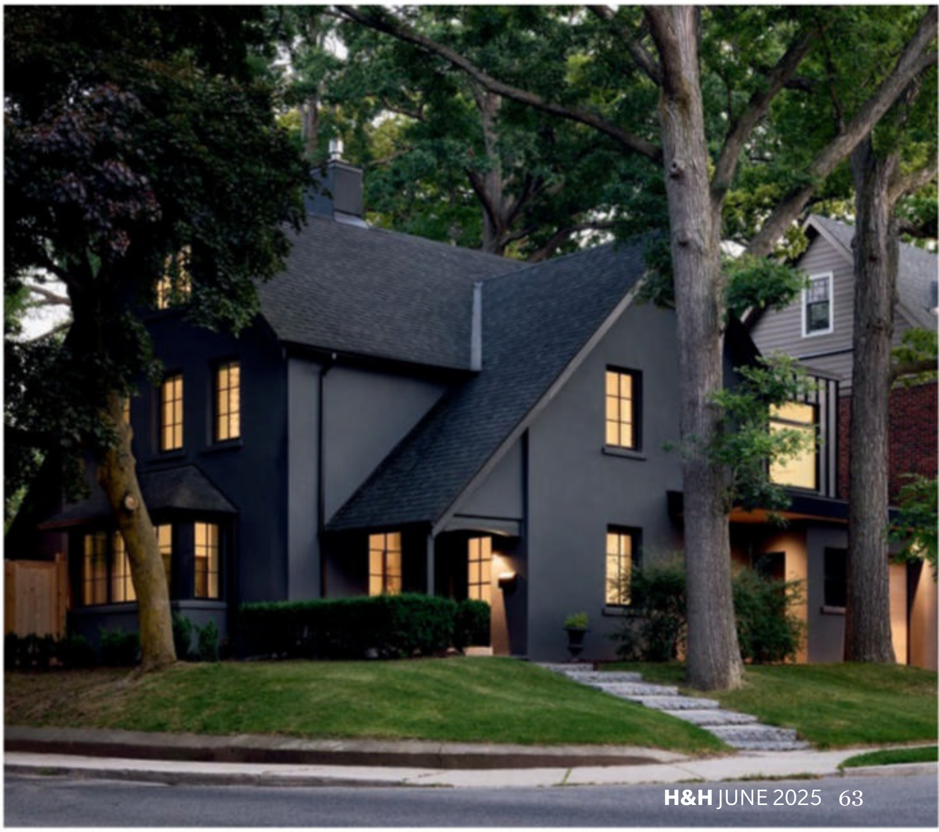
PLAN TO BE SURPRISED. When renovating older houses, you'll often uncover structural, plumbing or electrical issues. Work with a good contractor who can navigate surprises. When selecting a builder, ask for references and tour a previously finished project.

LET THE PICTURES DO THE TALKING. To communicate the decorating style you're looking for, build a file of inspiration photos and share it with your designer to get on the same page.

BUILD IN EXTRA TIME FOR THE PROJECT. Delays will happen, including slow shipments of specific finishes or furniture pieces, or you might change your mind about what you want at the last minute. It's good to build a one- to two-month buffer into the schedule for delays, changes and setbacks.

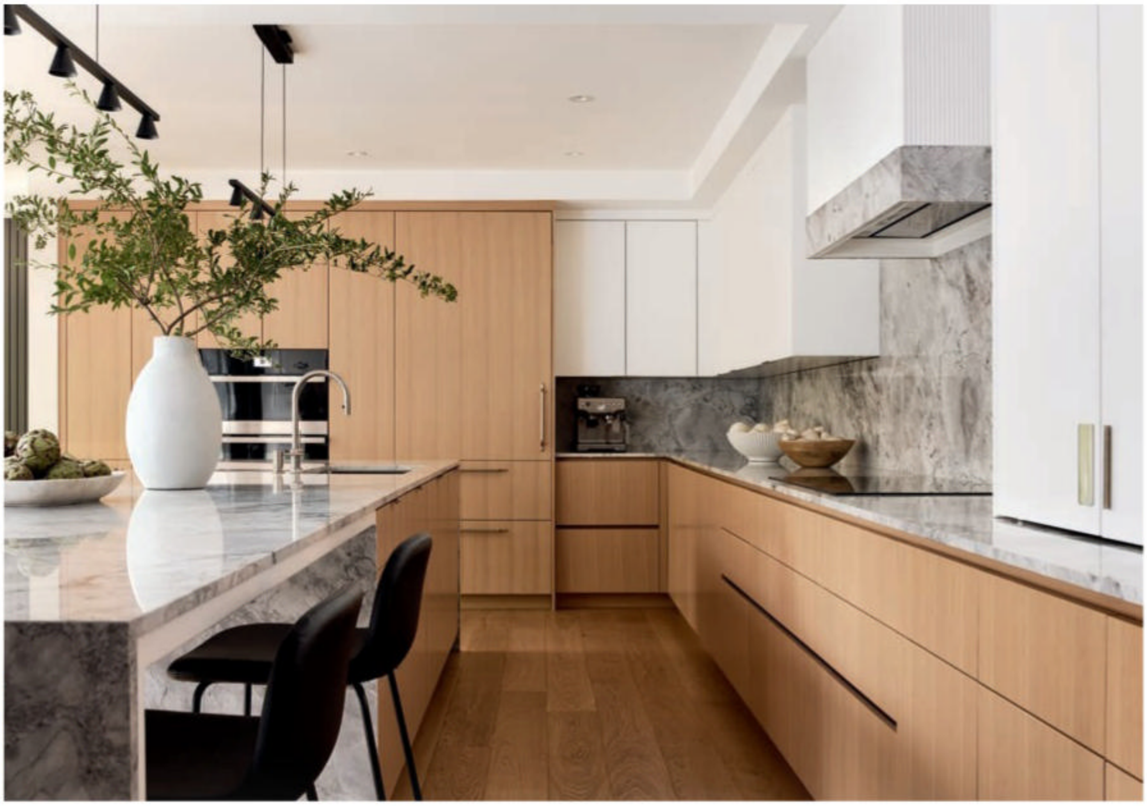
HAVE A HEALTHY CONTINGENCY. It's always good to set aside an additional 10 to 15 per cent of the overall budget to deal with the unexpected. You never know what you'll find when you open walls — knob and tube, asbestos, you name it!

THE BEST DECORATING IS IN THE MIX. Introducing a balance of colour, texture and pattern brings interest and prevents modern spaces from feeling overly sparse.

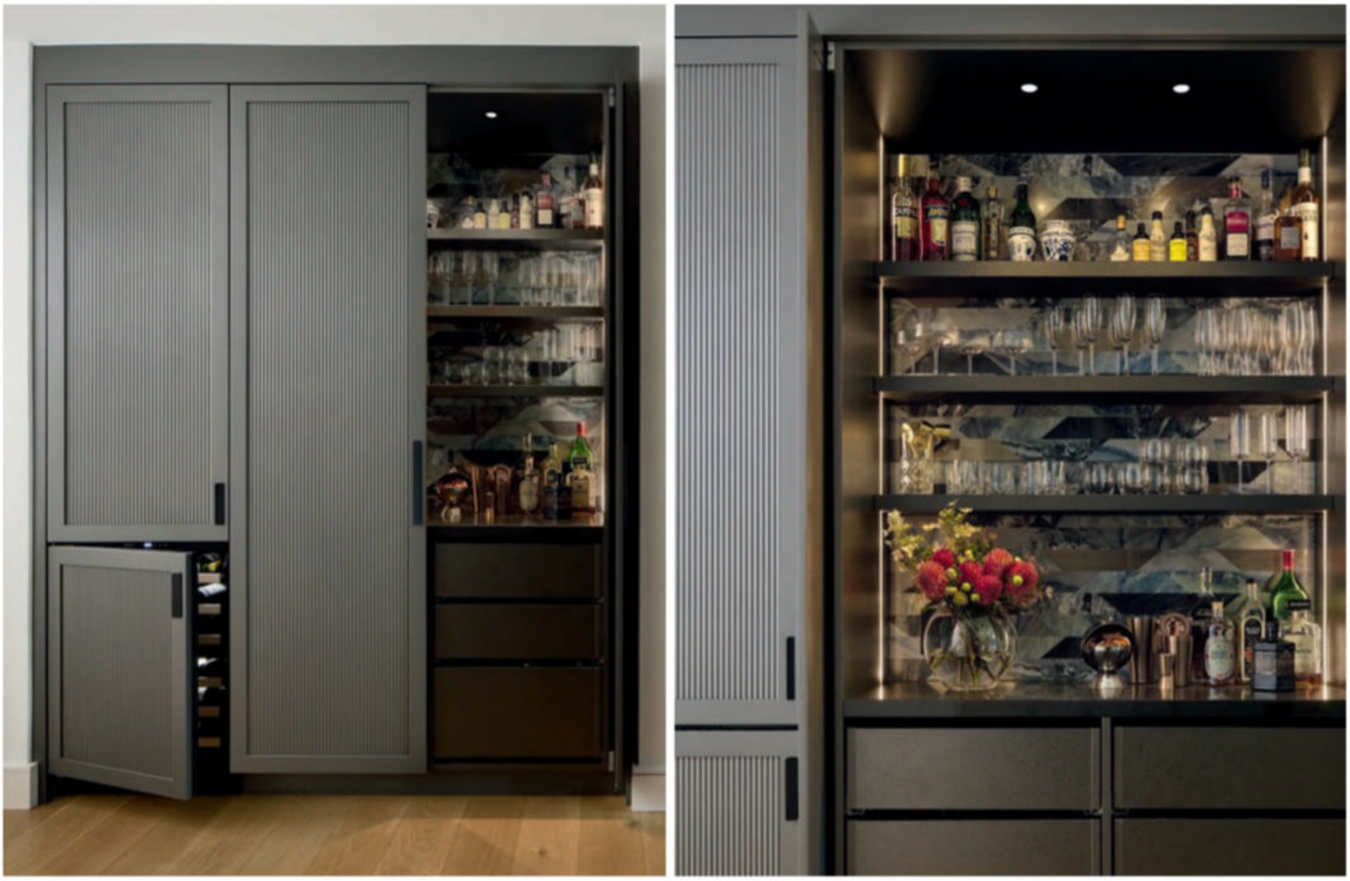


with clean lines and timeless elements. That design influence is seen in the white walls and white oak floors throughout the house. Especially in the kitchen, the mix of painted and white oak cabinets has a distinct Scandi feel. Dotted throughout the rooms are references to other periods, too. The dining room showcases a mélange of different eras: the custom modern dining table sits on a transitional rug next to a mid-century modern–style sideboard — a piece the owners already had in their home and treasure.

Reeding on the sideboard was another element that helped harmonize old and new. "We added a similar texture to the wall in the dining room, the doors of the bar in the kitchen, the vent hood above the range, and some of the bathroom millwork," says Linnea. "It's these similar touches, these variations on a theme, that pull a room together." Martin agrees: "Regardless of the different styles or periods reflected, these common elements make the design feel intentional." H&H



ABOVE AND OPPOSITE: White uppers allow the white oak millwork and quartzite to shine in the kitchen. ***Millwork,*** *Wood Studio;* ***backsplash, counters, island,*** *Olympia Tile & Stone;* ***stools,*** *Design Within Reach;* ***hardwood flooring,*** *Unik Parquet.* **BELOW:** Porcelain tile with brass accents on the back wall of the bar catches the light and offers a touch of glam. ***Backsplash,*** *Cercan Tile.*



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The serene principal bedroom has expansive treetop views, bringing the outdoors in. ***Ceiling fixture,*** *West Elm;* ***wallpaper,*** *NewWall;* ***bed frame,*** *Design Within Reach.* **BOTTOM:** Grey terrazzo-look tile adds movement and interest in the second-floor bathroom. ***Tile,*** *Ciot.*

BY THE NUMBERS

Size of the house: **2,900 square feet**

Number of bedrooms: **4**

Number of bathrooms: **5**

Construction timeline: **18 months**

Total timeline from start to finish, including design, permits and construction: **2½ years**

Number of different tile styles: **18**

Number of wallpapers: **5**

SEE SOURCE GUIDE

TOP LEFT: In the ensuite, black finishes on the plumbing fixtures, tub and window frame have a contemporary feel. ***Tub*** *by Bagno Italia, Aquavato.*

TOP RIGHT: Floor-to-ceiling shelving offers a place to display books and collections in one son's bedroom. ***Wallpaper,*** *Anewall;* ***sconce,*** *Luminaire Authentik.*

BOTTOM RIGHT: The principal bedroom is separated from the rest of the house by an elegant dressing room. *Custom* ***millwork,*** *Wood Studio.*

BOTTOM LEFT: Graphic wallpaper adds punch and brings a contemporary vibe to the home gym, located on the lower level. ***Wallpaper,*** *Kravet Canada.*

THE BOLD LOOK
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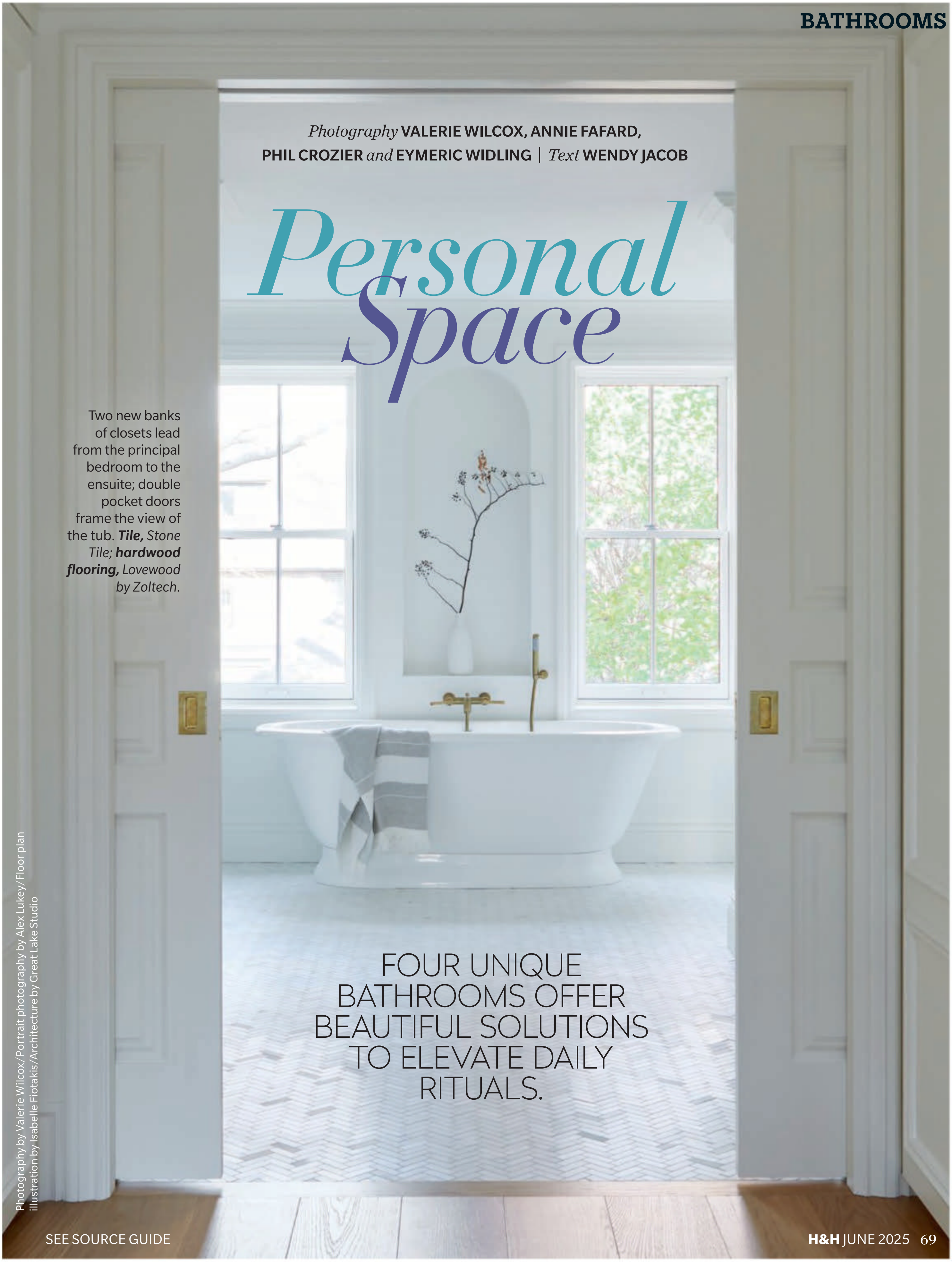
Personal Space



FOUR UNIQUE BATHROOMS OFFER BEAUTIFUL SOLUTIONS TO ELEVATE DAILY RITUALS.

Two new banks of closets lead from the principal bedroom to the ensuite; double pocket doors frame the view of the tub. ***Tile,*** *Stone Tile;* ***hardwood flooring,*** *Lovewood by Zoltech.*

Photography by Valerie Wilcox/Portrait photography by Alex Lukey/Floor plan illustration by Isabelle Fiotakis/Architecture by Great Lake Studio

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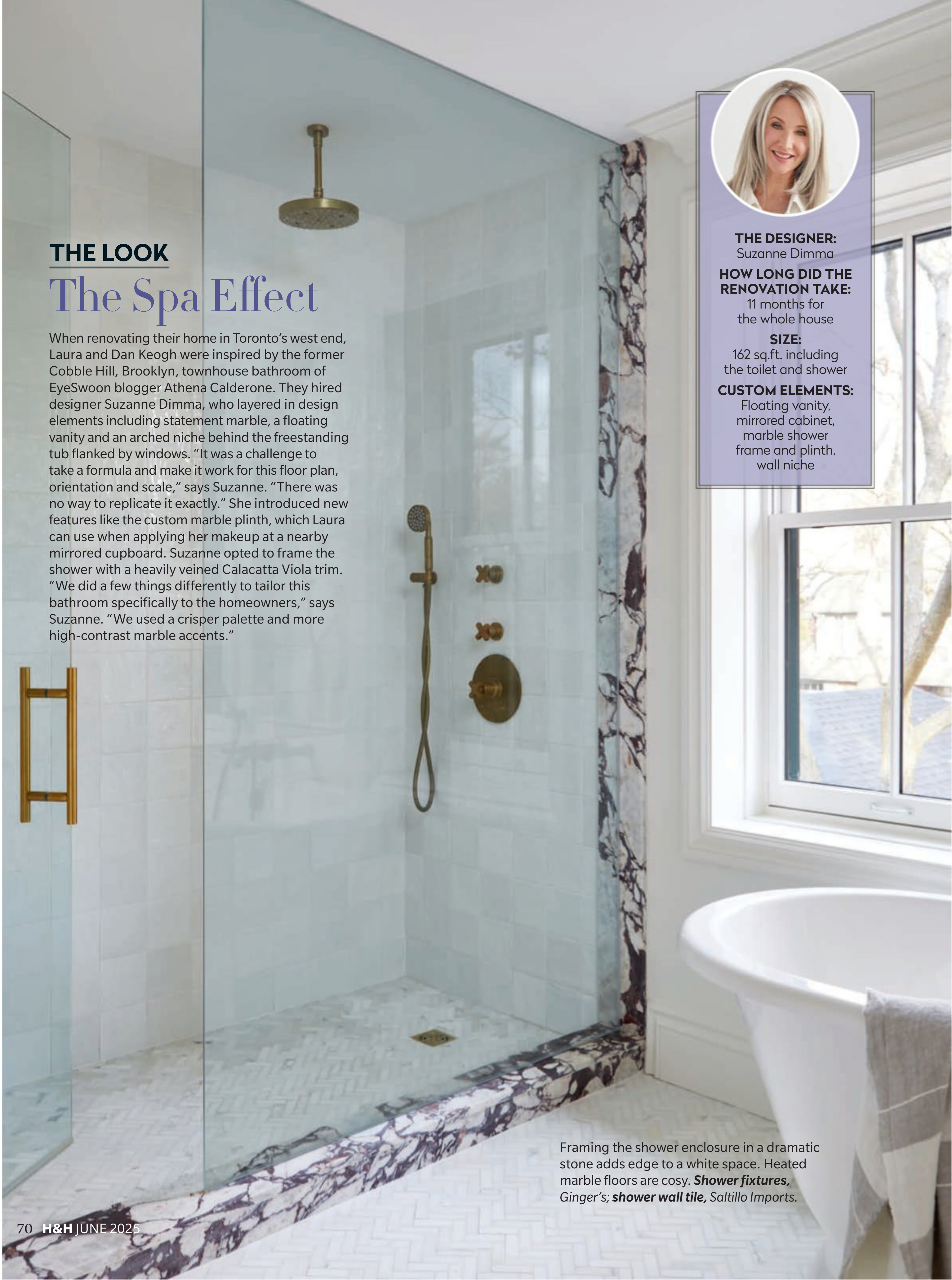


THE LOOK

The Spa Effect

When renovating their home in Toronto's west end, Laura and Dan Keogh were inspired by the former Cobble Hill, Brooklyn, townhouse bathroom of EyeSwoon blogger Athena Calderone. They hired designer Suzanne Dimma, who layered in design elements including statement marble, a floating vanity and an arched niche behind the freestanding tub flanked by windows. "It was a challenge to take a formula and make it work for this floor plan, orientation and scale," says Suzanne. "There was no way to replicate it exactly." She introduced new features like the custom marble plinth, which Laura can use when applying her makeup at a nearby mirrored cupboard. Suzanne opted to frame the shower with a heavily veined Calacatta Viola trim. "We did a few things differently to tailor this bathroom specifically to the homeowners," says Suzanne. "We used a crisper palette and more high-contrast marble accents."

THE DESIGNER:
Suzanne Dimma

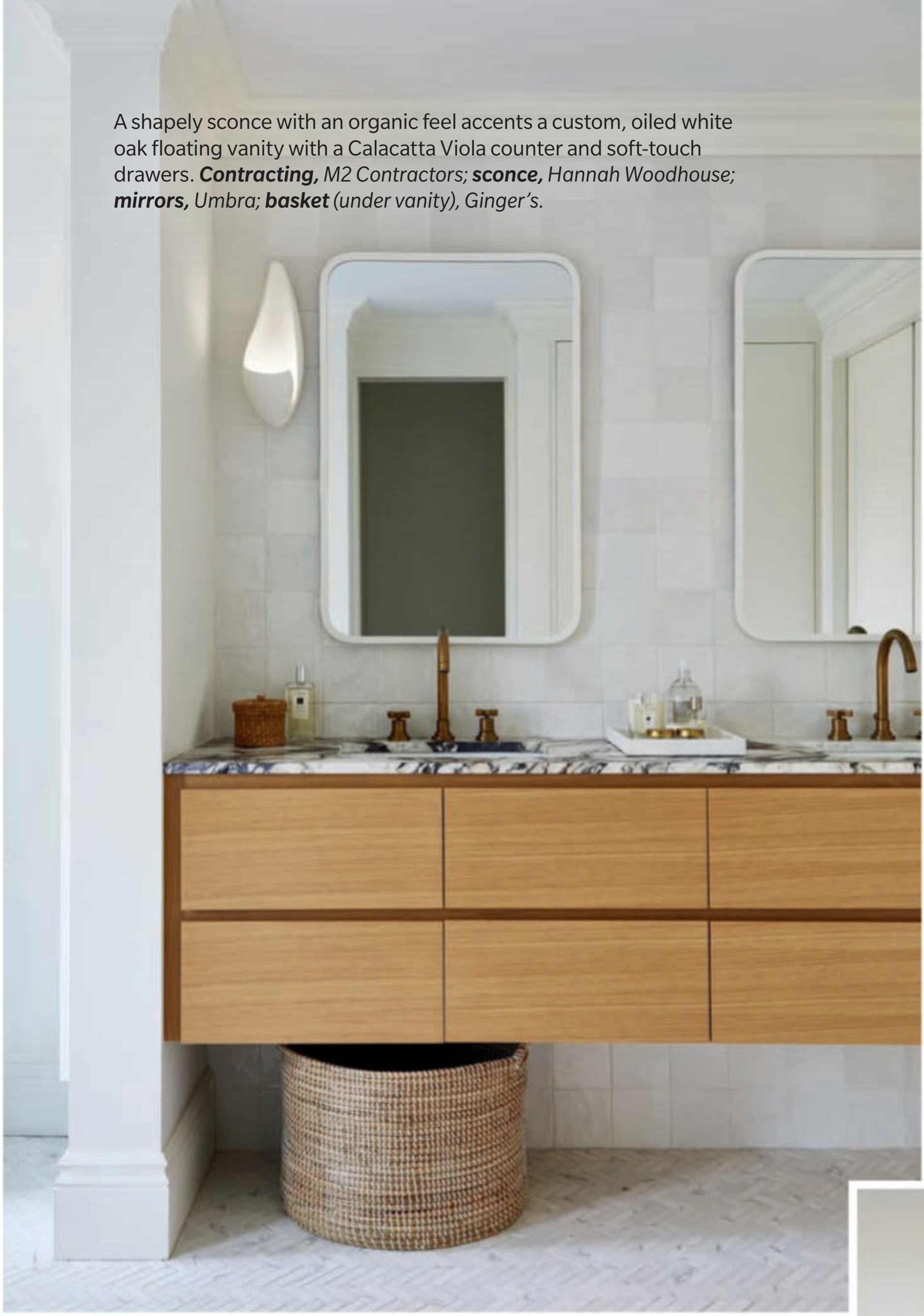
HOW LONG DID THE RENOVATION TAKE:
11 months for the whole house

SIZE:
162 sq.ft. including the toilet and shower

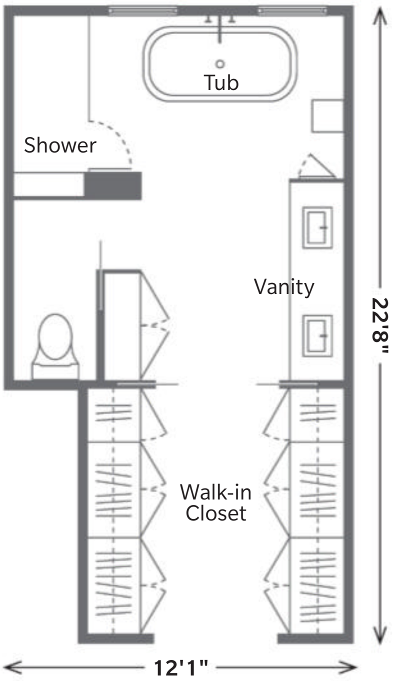
CUSTOM ELEMENTS:
Floating vanity, mirrored cabinet, marble shower frame and plinth, wall niche

Framing the shower enclosure in a dramatic stone adds edge to a white space. Heated marble floors are cosy. ***Shower fixtures,*** *Ginger's;* ***shower wall tile,*** *Saltillo Imports.*

A shapely sconce with an organic feel accents a custom, oiled white oak floating vanity with a Calacatta Viola counter and soft-touch drawers. ***Contracting,*** *M2 Contractors;* ***sconce,*** *Hannah Woodhouse;* ***mirrors,*** *Umbra;* ***basket*** *(under vanity), Ginger's.*



Floor plan



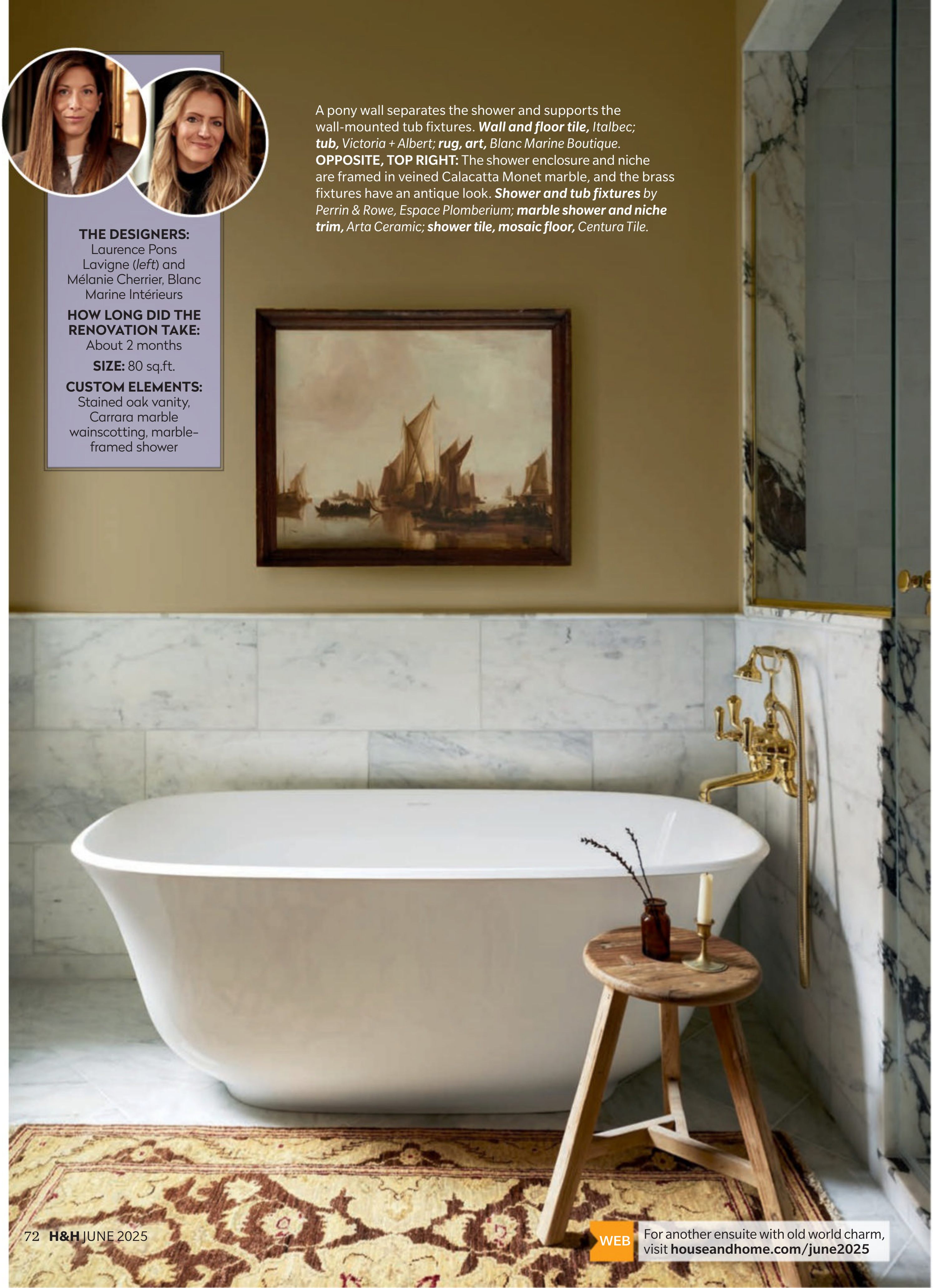
KEY ELEMENTS

- Oiled white oak floating vanity
- Zellige-like tile
- High-contrast shower frame
- Curvy freestanding tub
- Herringbone marble floors

STYLE GOAL: A fresh take on Athena Calderone's iconic Brooklyn bathroom that mixes a clean and modern aesthetic with traditional elements
BIGGEST CHALLENGE: Trying to fit all the must-haves into the space without impacting the dramatic view to the tub
WHAT SHE DID: Took the house back to the studs; the ensuite is part of a new two-storey addition at the back of the house overseen by Great Lake Studio • Designed the layout for the bathroom and interior spaces, and selected finishes • Created a custom floating vanity • Trimmed the custom glass shower enclosure with Calacatta Viola marble • Installed marble herringbone flooring and a bank of closets leading to the bathroom
DESIGNER ADVICE: Don't underestimate your storage, and always incorporate vertical storage — a vanity can't do it all • Keep your bathroom serene with only one high-impact pattern, in this case, the marble • Add organic touches with a basket, waffle-weave towels or ceramic sconces • Pocket doors are a great space-saver that create privacy • Leave room to artfully display a bouquet or branch arrangement • Situate a standout tub to appreciate the view and turn it into a beautiful sight line

BOTTOM RIGHT: The plinth was fabricated with a remnant from the vanity and shower surround. A makeup cabinet is concealed behind the mirrored doors (*right*). ***Towels,*** *HomeSense;* ***bowl,*** *The Gather Studio; custom* ***plinth fabrication,*** *CB Marble Craft.*

SEE SOURCE GUIDE



THE DESIGNERS: Laurence Pons Lavigne (*left*) and Mélanie Cherrier, Blanc Marine Intérieurs

HOW LONG DID THE RENOVATION TAKE: About 2 months

SIZE: 80 sq.ft.

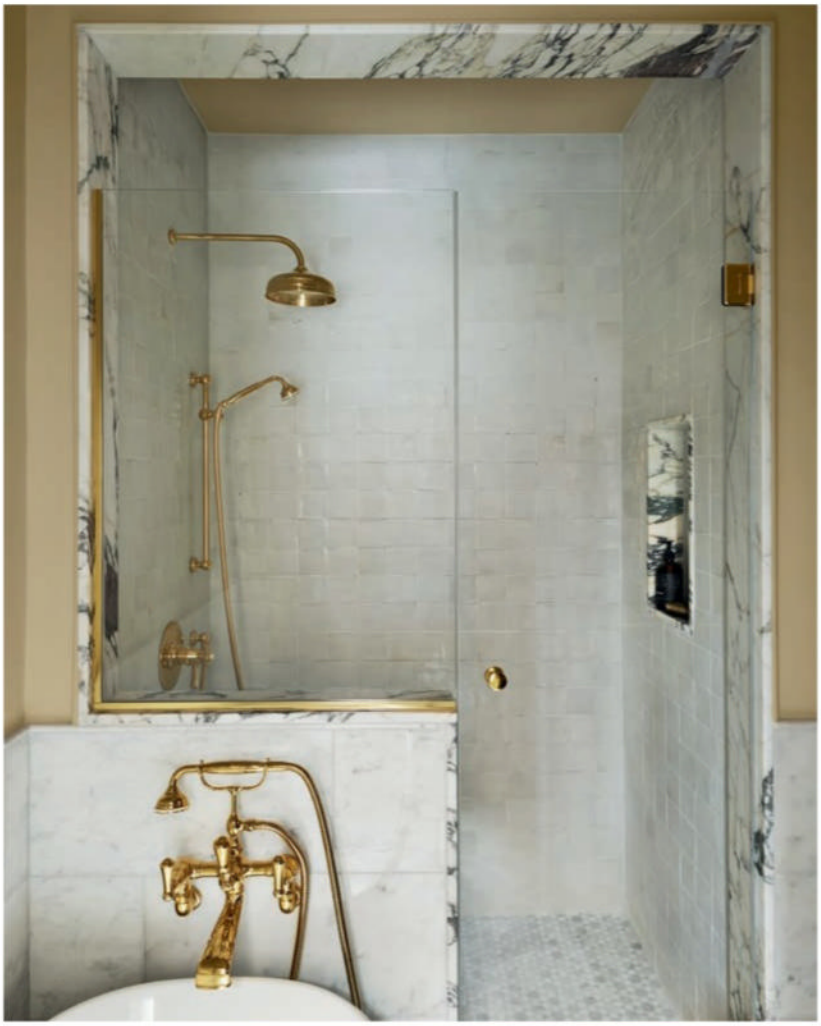
CUSTOM ELEMENTS: Stained oak vanity, Carrara marble wainscotting, marble-framed shower

A pony wall separates the shower and supports the wall-mounted tub fixtures. ***Wall and floor tile,*** *Italbec;* ***tub,*** *Victoria + Albert;* ***rug, art,*** *Blanc Marine Boutique.* **OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT:** The shower enclosure and niche are framed in veined Calacatta Monet marble, and the brass fixtures have an antique look. ***Shower and tub fixtures*** *by Perrin & Rowe, Espace Plomberium;* ***marble shower and niche trim,*** *Arta Ceramic;* ***shower tile, mosaic floor,*** *Centura Tile.*

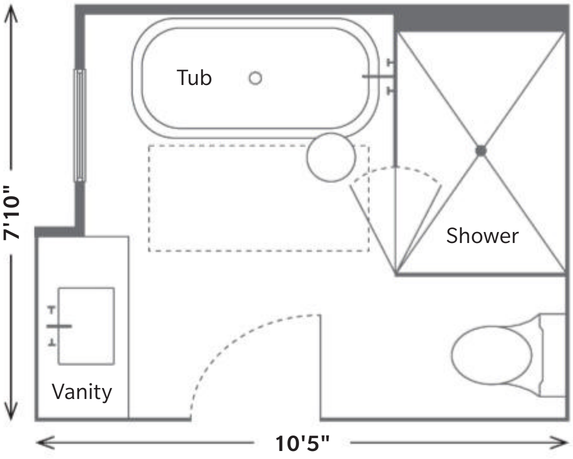
WEB For another ensuite with old world charm, visit **houseandhome.com/june2025**

KEY ELEMENTS

- Warm beige walls
- Carrara marble wainscotting
- Stained vanity in a charcoal hue
- Calacatta Monet marble shower trim
- Antique-style brass handheld spray and rain showerhead



Floor plan



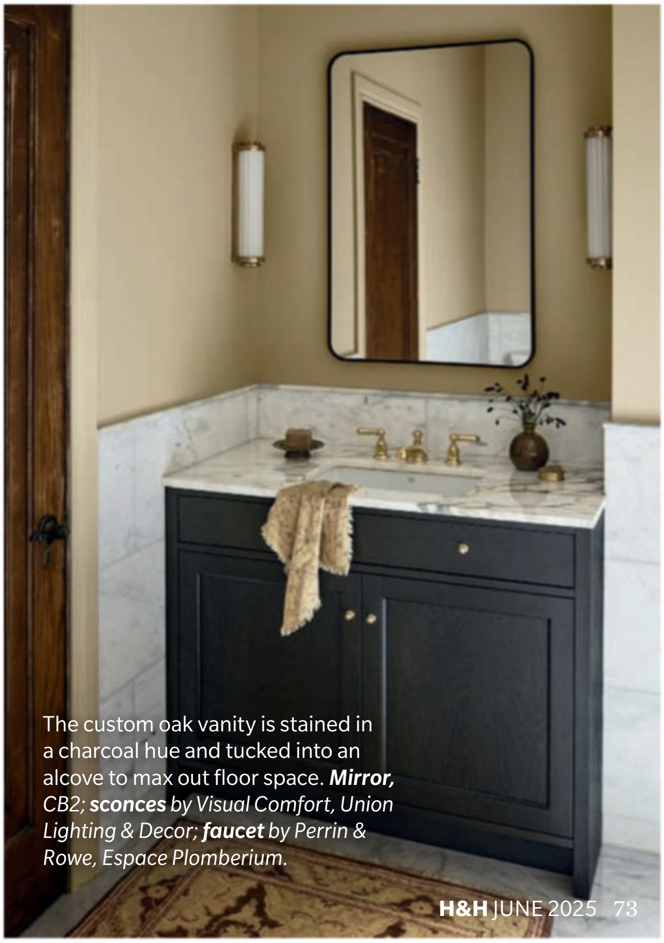
THE LOOK

Timeless Trad

The walls in this circa-1930 home in Montreal's Notre-Dame-de-Grâce district burnish the bathroom in a honeyed, golden glow that enhances its heritage. "Every house has its own history, and it's important for us to create a design that harmonizes with its era or the architectural style," says designer Laurence Pons Lavigne of Blanc Marine Intérieurs, who worked alongside Mélanie Cherrier on the project. "The goal was not to strip everything away and start from scratch, but to enhance the existing structure." By shifting the location of the plumbing to maximize space and using timeless materials, this classic bathroom is now more functional, with a soothing ambience.

STYLE GOAL: A classic bathroom with Carrara marble wainscotting, a stained oak vanity and brass fixtures
BIGGEST CHALLENGE: The chopped-up rooms and limited space. The client wanted a functional bathroom that could accommodate a young family
WHAT THEY DID: Relocated the plumbing and some walls • Selected all the materials, plumbing fixtures and accessories
MONEY TALK*: Key costs: $4,755 for the vanity mirror, sconces, faucet, sink and drain, $4,680 for the tub, $3,430 for the tub filler with hand shower, $3,165 for the shower (including showerhead, hand shower and thermostatic pressure balance), $2,061 for the marble wainscotting, $1,126 for the shower wall tile, $990 for the floor tile and $480 for the shower floor tile
DESIGNER ADVICE: To give a neutral room personality, embrace strong contrasts like a dark-toned vanity with pale marble tile • Let the house inspire you by retaining original elements when possible • Mix styles, materials and elements from different eras for a timeless look • In small bathrooms, use alcoves and low walls to optimize space; a recessed vanity frees up room for the tub and shower

SEE SOURCE GUIDE



The custom oak vanity is stained in a charcoal hue and tucked into an alcove to max out floor space. ***Mirror,*** *CB2;* ***sconces*** *by Visual Comfort, Union Lighting & Decor;* ***faucet*** *by Perrin & Rowe, Espace Plomberium.*

Photography by Annie Fafard/Portrait photography by Gabrielle Robert/
Floor plan illustration by Isabelle Fiotakis/*Costs are from 2023

THE DESIGNER:
Nyla Free

HOW LONG DID THE RENOVATION TAKE:
4 months

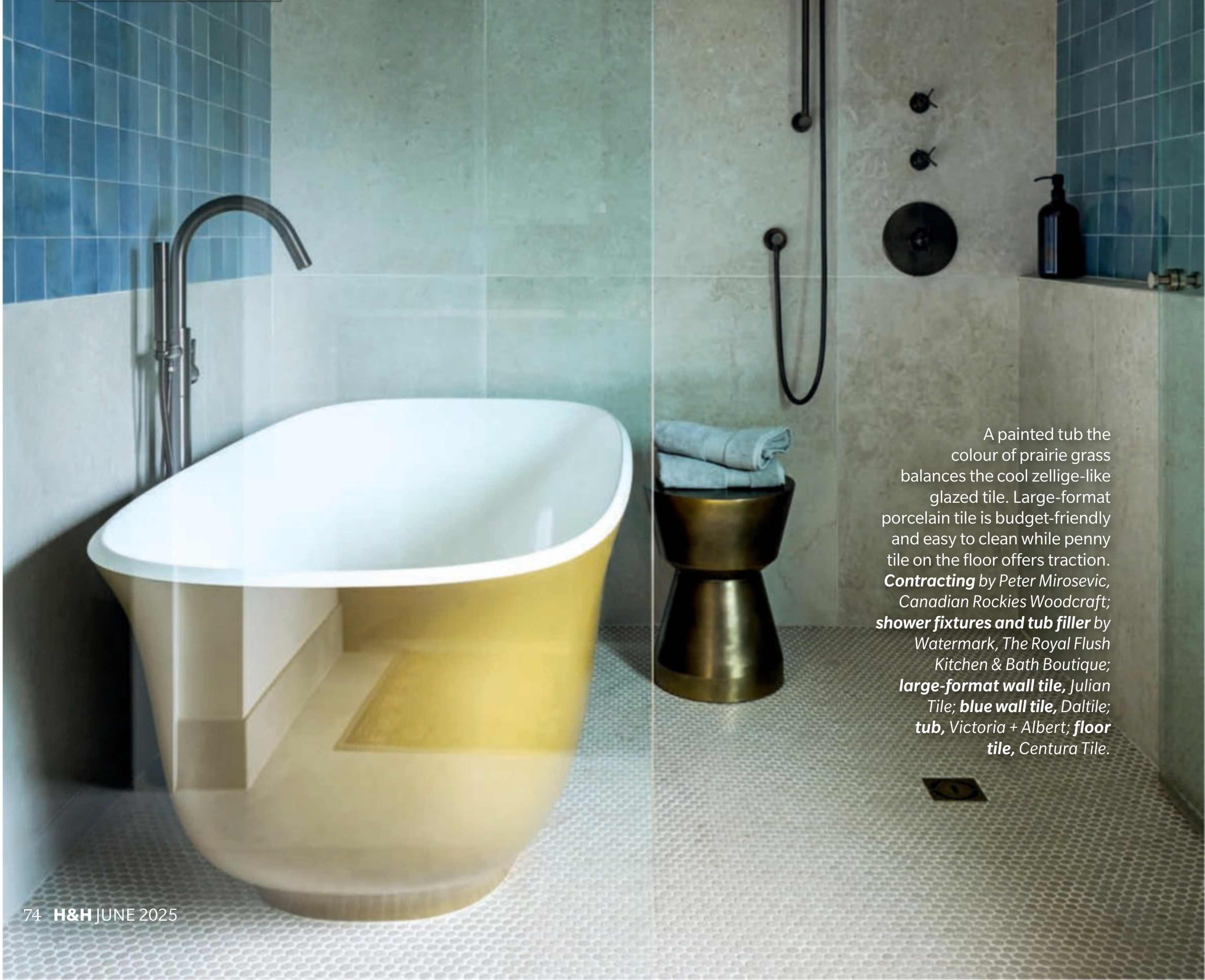
SIZE: 198 sq.ft.

CUSTOM ELEMENTS:
Reeded walnut vanity, closets, painted tub, shelving unit with open display for a coffee station

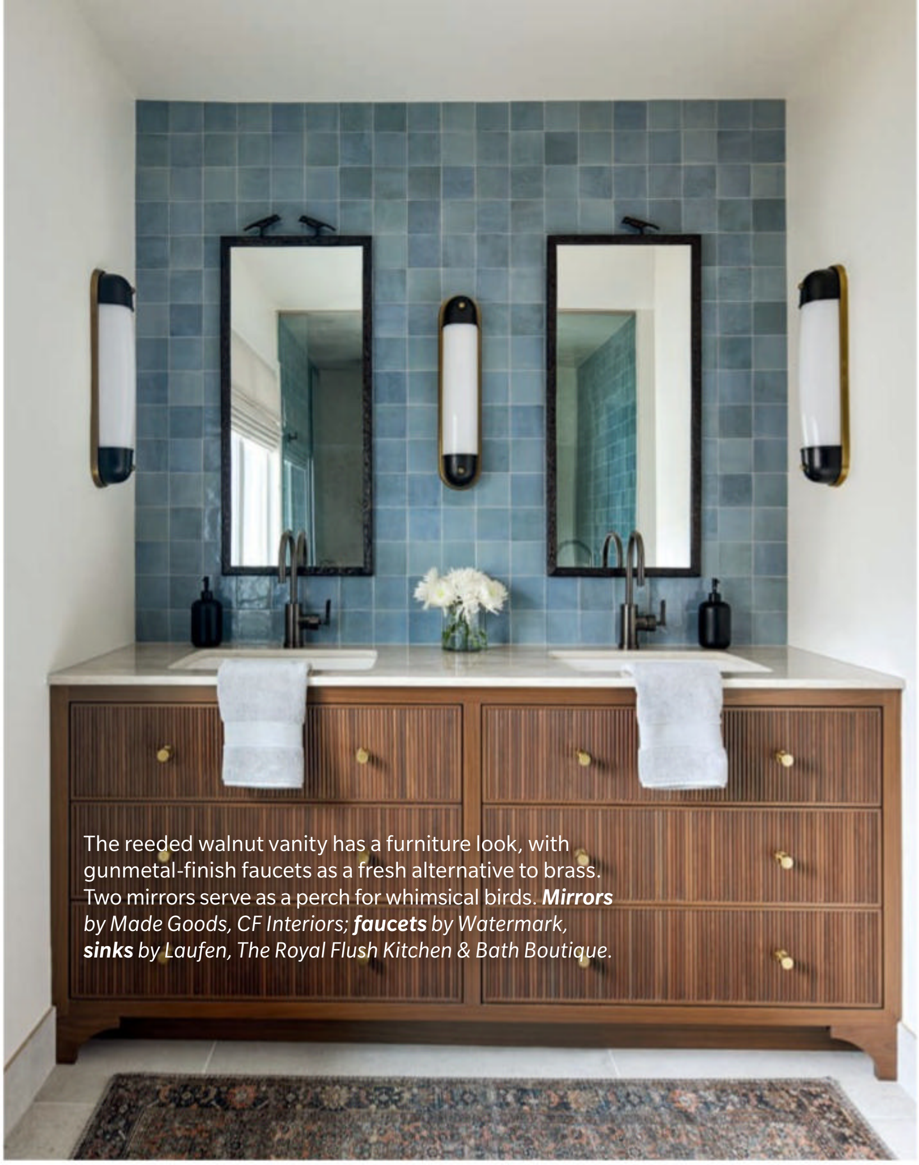
THE LOOK

Prairie Modern

A renovated ensuite in a home in Calgary's Lake Bonavista neighbourhood takes its cues from nature. "This house is right off the lake, so that was our jumping-off point," says designer Nyla Free. "The soft blues and chocolatey walnut stain on the oak vanity create an earthy prairie vibe." The client takes cold plunges in the lake every morning and ends the night with a warm bath. The renovation meant reimagining the layout to create a central wet room that consolidated the tub and shower into one space and eliminated extra walls. A corridor leads to a private area with a coffee station where they can get ready.

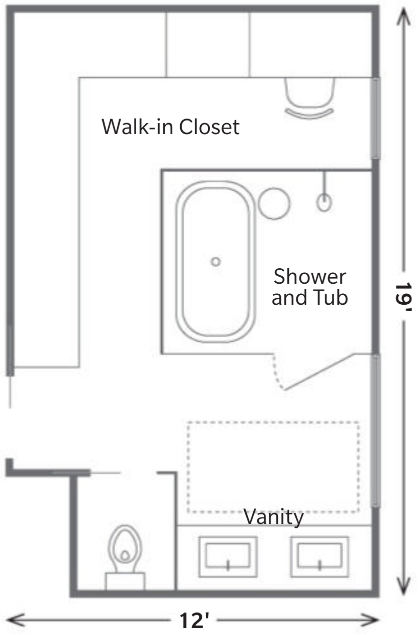


A painted tub the colour of prairie grass balances the cool zellige-like glazed tile. Large-format porcelain tile is budget-friendly and easy to clean while penny tile on the floor offers traction. ***Contracting** by Peter Mirosevic, Canadian Rockies Woodcraft; **shower fixtures and tub filler** by Watermark, The Royal Flush Kitchen & Bath Boutique; **large-format wall tile,** Julian Tile; **blue wall tile,** Daltile; **tub,** Victoria + Albert; **floor tile,** Centura Tile.*



The reeded walnut vanity has a furniture look, with gunmetal-finish faucets as a fresh alternative to brass. Two mirrors serve as a perch for whimsical birds. ***Mirrors*** *by Made Goods, CF Interiors;* ***faucets*** *by Watermark,* ***sinks*** *by Laufen, The Royal Flush Kitchen & Bath Boutique.*

Floor plan



STYLE GOAL: Playing up the lakeside inspiration and including all of the owners' amenity requests such as a coffee bar and wardrobe storage
BIGGEST CHALLENGE: Levelling the tub while sloping the shower floor to the drain in the wet room
WHAT SHE DID: Moved all plumbing, rough-ins, fixtures and amenities in the ensuite • Stole a foot of space from the bedroom to accommodate the new layout • Created a new wet room, including a tub • Designed a custom, furniture-like double vanity with reeding • Installed zellige-style tile for the backsplash and in the wet room • Built floor-to-ceiling storage in the hallway • Applied wallpaper to a niche in the custom makeup area
MONEY TALK*: Key costs for this renovation: $44,000 for the plumbing (including relocating all plumbing, rough-ins and fixtures, supplies and installation), $35,000 for the millwork (including custom closet, vanity and makeup area), $12,000 for the tile (including labour, floor levelling, in-floor heating, anti-fracture membrane, dry pack in shower, waterproofing and Schluter drain), $10,650 for lighting, $5,700 for the counters, $5,600 for the mirrors, $3,100 for the frameless shower glass, $2,300 for the wallpaper (including installation) and $1,500 for the hardware
DESIGNER ADVICE: Invest in quality fixtures — faucets are an important tactile element you touch every day • In a showroom, some finishes aren't necessarily on display, so ask your designer and showroom staff to see more than the standard offerings • Incorporate luxuries like a coffee bar • Consider a tub upgrade like a painted exterior to make a statement • Elevate flat-front cabinet doors with special hardware • Try a patterned wallpaper in a niche or dressing table area — too many neutrals can get boring!

BOTTOM RIGHT: Floral wallpaper was applied in the niche with pretty fluted sconces framing the mirror. ***Wallpaper*** *by Designers Guild, DWA Interior Furnishings;* ***sconces*** *by Visual Comfort, Robinson Lighting & Bath;* ***mirror*** *by Arteriors, CF Interiors.*

Photography by Phil Crozier/Floor plan illustration by Isabelle Fiotakis/*Costs are from 2023

KEY ELEMENTS

- Watery blue tile
- Fixtures with a gunmetal finish
- Botanical wallpaper
- Tub with a painted exterior
- Reeded vanity

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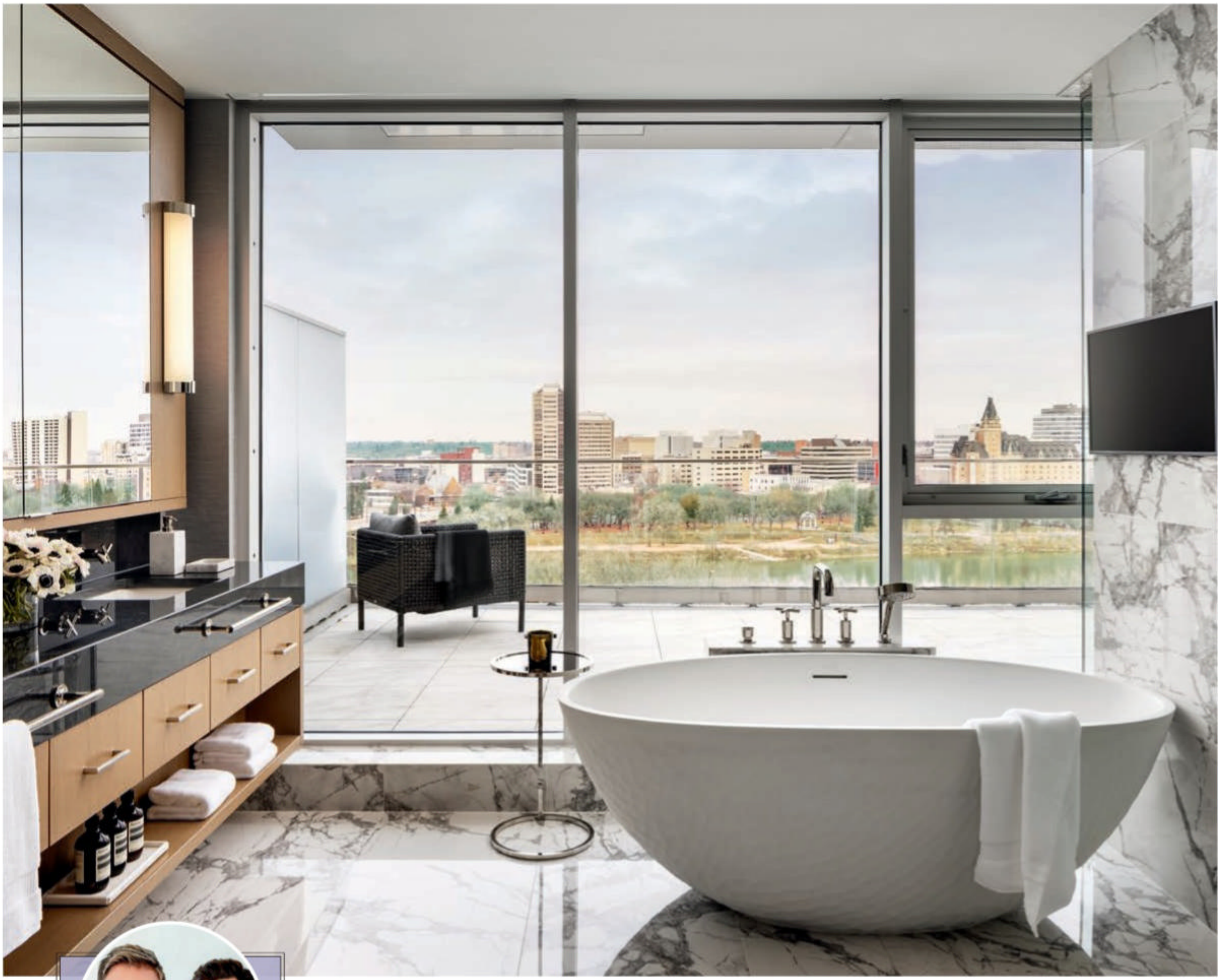


THE DESIGNERS:
Curtis Elmy (*left*) and
Trevor Ciona, Atmosphere
Interior Design

HOW LONG DID THE RENOVATION TAKE:
About 6 months

SIZE:
500 sq.ft. including
the principal closet

CUSTOM ELEMENTS:
Makeup station,
floating vanity,
mirrored medicine
cabinets, exterior
shower door

THE LOOK

Serene & Spacious

The owners of this Saskatoon condo are avid travellers. "When you enjoy luxuries in a hotel, you wonder: Why don't I have this at home?" says Curtis Elmy, who designed this bathroom with Atmosphere Interior Design partner Trevor Ciona. "These clients understand that hotels are a great source of design ideas." The owners purchased an adjoining unit with floor-to-ceiling windows and a view of the castle-like Delta Hotels Bessborough to create an enviable new retreat. They requested two shower doors, with one door opening directly to their sixth-floor patio and pool. "Everyone in Saskatoon desires that view," says Curtis. "And when you have a home that makes you feel comfortable, you don't want to leave."

STYLE GOAL: A hotel spa–like retreat with warm woods and punches of graphic black to accompany an iconic Saskatoon view

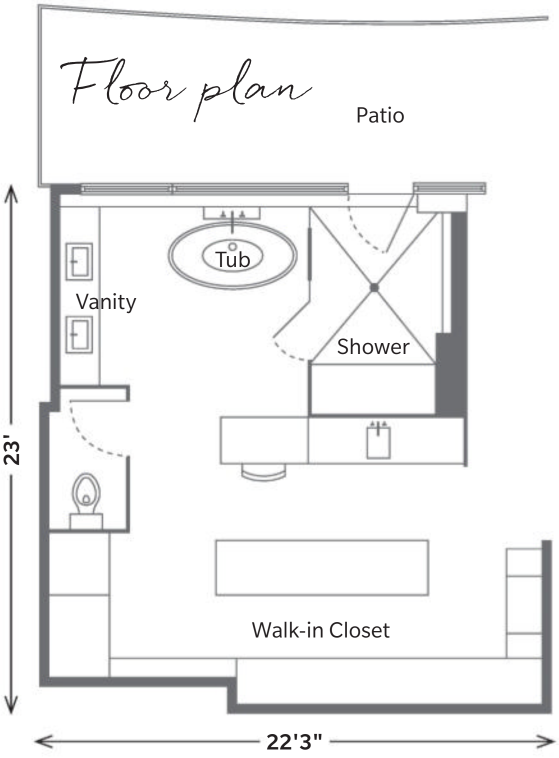
BIGGEST CHALLENGE: Expansive glazing meant there were few walls, which impacted storage

WHAT THEY DID: Clad the walls in a veined, large-format porcelain tile • Installed a freestanding tub and TV • Designed a floating oak vanity and makeup niche • Created and installed two shower doors, with one door leading to the outdoor space • Applied a faux silk–like vinyl wallpaper

DESIGNER ADVICE: Think about the water feature you use the most, such as the rain showerheads or tub, then pick your splurge • Don't be afraid of wallpaper in the bathroom (we often suggest vinyl) — it adds durability to the walls and brings warmth and texture to hard surfaces like mirror, glass and tile • You might not need two sinks; there's no point in having a double vanity if there isn't room to comfortably stand side by side • Try subtle accent lighting; low accent lights in this shower turn on automatically and act as night-lights

Photography by Eymeric Widling/Portrait photography by D&M Images/Floor plan illustration by Isabelle Fiotakis

SEE SOURCE GUIDE



TOP RIGHT: Natural light flows through to this tucked-away makeup niche; another mirror can be unfolded for a three-sided view. ***Sconce,*** *Kallista;* ***makeup niche fabrication,*** *Rëdl World Class Kitchens.*
BOTTOM LEFT: The custom white oak vanity's open storage makes it easy to grab towels or products on the go. ***Sconces, sinks,*** *Kallista;* ***faucets,*** *Kohler;* ***vanity fabrication****, Rëdl World Class Kitchens;* ***hardware,*** *Myoh.*
OPPOSITE: Large-format porcelain slabs are striking and durable while vinyl wallpaper applied near the vanity adds texture and warmth. ***Wall and floor tile,*** *Stone Tile;* ***tub faucet,*** *Kohler;* ***tub,*** *Kallista.*

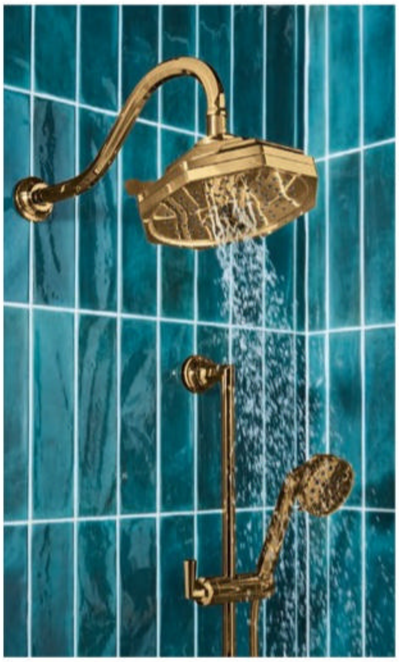
KEY ELEMENTS

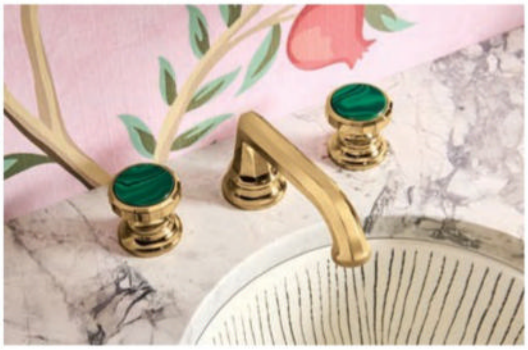
- Floor-to-ceiling windows
- An open mirrored makeup niche
- Black quartzite counters
- An offset freestanding tub and TV
- Marble-look porcelain slabs on walls and floor

Make a Splash

UPGRADE YOUR BATHROOM WITH THESE FRESH FINDS.

Produced by **STACY BEGG** | *Text by* **WENDY JACOB**



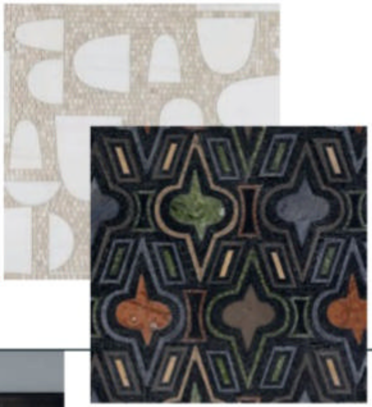


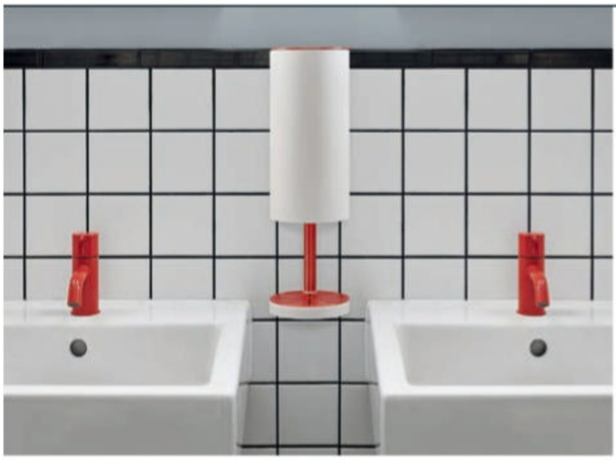
Style & Substance

Brizo's weighty Beauclere collection is inspired by historical fixtures in British manor homes, wrought-iron street lamps and antique guitar tuners. The faucet comes in six finishes, and an optional malachite inlay (*shown, top right*) adds a pop of colour. **FROM LEFT:** *16" **shower arm and flange,** $330; H20kinetic **showerhead,** $581; Multifunction Slide-bar **hand shower,** $1,193; **faucet** with Malachite Insert, $2,964. All in Brilliance Polished Gold finish. Brizo.*

Written in Stone

The new collaboration from **Artistic Tile** and **Donghia** reimagines signature Donghia textile patterns in stunning, splash-friendly mosaic and waterjet tile. Casino Royale's arabesque pattern is cut from natural stone that's surrounded by tesserae mosaic in contrasting tones, while Decadence features a mosaic of honed natural stone. **FROM TOP:** *Decadence **tile** in Cream; Casino Royale **tile** in Belgian Bluestone. Pricing upon request. Empire Kitchen & Bath.*

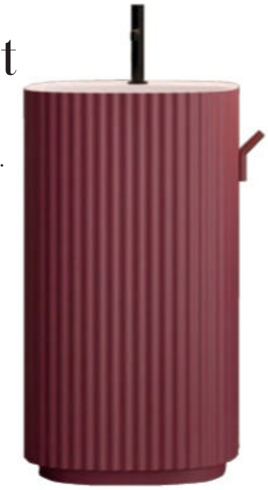




Hands-free Clean

This sleek **Vola** dispenser is a touch-free way to use sanitizer and soap. The freestanding, wall-mounted or tabletop units come in an array of vibrant colours and finishes, and deliver 1,000 applications from one refill. ***Hands-free soap dispenser*** *in Carmine Red, $3,804. Ginger's.*

Ripple Effect



Can't get enough fluting? This freestanding washbasin by **Ideagroup** has it in spades. Forty-five colourways (including moody blues and reds) are available, plus it comes with an optional integrated hook. Made from Cristalplant, a material with a natural stone–like look and velvety feel, this washbasin is hard-wearing, bacteria-resistant and fully recyclable. *Giove **washbasin** in Propora, $7,060. Minimal Toronto.*

Take a Seat

Canadian plumbing fixture brand **Riobel** has launched its first collection of toilets. This loo has a skirted base and removable slow-close lid to make cleaning easier. *Coriolis Kilo **toilet,** $1,800. House of Rohl.*

Smoke Screen

Elevate your morning shower with the Vespero smoked glass panel from **Fleurco**. The tinted glass is easy to install with a hidden anchoring system. *Vespero Smoked Glass **fixed shower panel** with Matte Black Trim, from $854. Robinson Lighting & Bath.*

SEE SHOPPING LIST

Photography courtesy of Brizo (showerhead, faucet)/Ideagroup (washbasin)/ Riobel (toilet)/Artistic Tile (tile)/Vola (dispenser)/Fleurco (shower panel)

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FRENCH AT HEART

FROM BEAUNE'S FAMOUS COOKING SCHOOL, THE COOK'S ATELIER, COMES A FRESH TAKE ON FRENCH CLASSICS.

Kendall Smith Franchini (*left*) and Marjorie Taylor with Rousseau outside their shop and cooking school.

Photography **ANSON SMART**
Text **ALEXANDRA WHYTE**

Photography by Abbie Mellé (Kendall and Marjorie's portrait)/Recipes reprinted with permission from *French at Heart* by Marjorie Taylor and Kendall Smith Franchini. Abrams Books ©2025. Photography by Anson Smart

SEE SHOPPING LIST

RECIPES

- QUICK GRAVLAX
- MARINATED GOAT CHEESE
- SUMMER LÉGUMES FRITES
- LEMON TARTLETS

RECIPE, PG. 86

QUICK GRAVLAX

"The clean, fresh taste of the thinly sliced salmon is topped with salty fried capers and crispy, tangy shallots." — *Marjorie Taylor*

NESTLED IN THE French countryside, just 30 minutes south of Beaune in the Burgundy region, is The Woodland House. Kendall Smith Franchini lives here with her husband, Laurent, three children, three cats, a dog, rooster and many chickens. Students of The Cook's Atelier, the cooking school she co-owns with her mom, Marjorie Taylor, are sometimes milling about, too. "Life here is much slower paced," says Kendall. "People go to the market to buy their food and take their time with everything they cook." In *French at Heart*, her second cookbook co-authored with Marjorie, she invites readers to step inside their world.

Originally from Phoenix, Kendall left home to work and study in France. Eventually, Marjorie left her own restaurant and cooking school to join Kendall where, together, they founded The Cook's Atelier in the small town of Beaune as a shop and cooking school. Over 17 years, the school has become famous for hosting tens of thousands of students from all over the world,

Kendall's home kitchen just outside of Beaune, France.

RECIPE, PG. 86

MARINATED GOAT CHEESE

"Left in olive oil and a mix of herbs, the mild, soft goat cheese is infused with a deep, herbaceous flavour."
— *Kendall Smith Franchini*

including many Canadians. "We teach classic French cooking with a modern lens," says Marjorie. "We like light, clean dishes."

Building on the success of the duo's first book, *The Cook's Atelier*, their second is a more intimate look at Kendall and Marjorie's life at home, cooking simple family meals using fresh ingredients and French cooking techniques. **Quick Gravlax** is inspired by a local fishmonger's take on the classic Scandinavian dish. Smaller pieces of salmon are cured overnight in sugar, sea salt, olive oil and dill, then topped with capers, minced shallot and more olive oil and dill. **Summer Légumes Frites** is a French twist on Japanese tempura, with fried French beans and squash blossoms served with lemon wedges and herbs. "This is the perfect recipe if you have your own vegetable garden that's overflowing with produce,"

SEE SHOPPING LIST

RECIPE, PG. 86

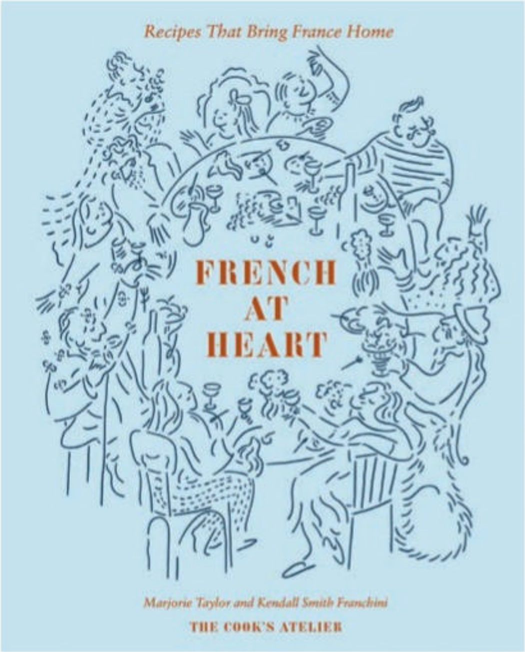
SUMMER LÉGUMES FRITES

"A tempura-style batter lightly coats crunchy spring and summer vegetables, which are finished with lemon wedges for a bit of brightness."
— *Marjorie Taylor*

says Marjorie. Some recipes are classic Burgundy dishes, such as **Marinated Goat Cheese,** which uses fresh artisanal goat cheese (but you can substitute grocery store varieties) and soaks it in French olive oil and fresh herbs to elevate a snack board. The **Lemon Tartlets** recipe is one they've been perfecting for years. Prebaked pâte sucrée is filled with lemon curd and left to set without a second bake for a bright yellow, glassy finish.

Even with the slower pace of life in Burgundy, Kendall and Marjorie are always looking for their next project. Recently, they converted the circa-1800 barn at The Woodland House into a teaching kitchen for students to come and enjoy during their masterclass program. They're also venturing into video and plan on creating new content for their YouTube channel. "We've been able to turn our experience and love of France into a business," says Kendall. "It's a joy to be able to share this with people from around the world."

TOP RIGHT: Marjorie and Kendall preparing a meal together at The Woodland House.
BOTTOM LEFT: French at Heart. *Abrams Books, 2025, $50.*


Recipes That Bring France Home
FRENCH AT HEART
Marjorie Taylor and Kendall Smith Franchini
THE COOK'S ATELIER

RECIPE, PG. 87

LEMON TARTLETS

"Pâte sucrée has a sweet taste that's contrasted by the vibrant, tart lemon curd." — *Marjorie Taylor*

SEE SHOPPING LIST

Send your questions to letters@ hhmedia.com

ASK A CHEF

Black+Blue Toronto's executive chef Morgan Bellis shares his popular crab cake recipe.

Q: I went to Black+Blue to support a Canadian steak house and ended up loving the crab cake the most. Can you get the recipe? **— ADAM,** *Toronto*

A: Chef Morgan likes to use both Dungeness and rock crab meat to create complexity and texture. "Our Crab Cake lets the natural flavours of the meat shine through, and the sweetness of the Japanese mayo plays off the subtle brine," says Morgan. It's served with an apple and celeriac slaw for a fresh and appealing crunch.

See page 93 for recipe.

GREAT GADGET

Sweet Treat

Ninja Canada's new **Creami Swirl 13-in-1 Soft Serve ice cream machine** has six scoop-style ice cream modes and six new soft serve functions including fruit whip, frozen custard and frozen yogurt, plus an option to mix in toppings. Bonus: Many of the components are dishwasher safe! *$430. Walmart Canada.*

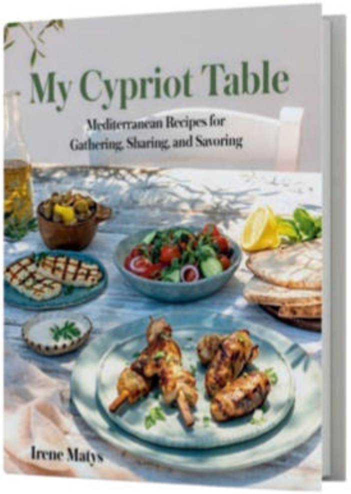
NINJA
Ninja

GET GRILLING

SMOKE SHOW

Turn any grill into a smoker using this compact, stainless steel **Wood Chip smoker** by Outset. Add presoaked mesquite or hickory wood chips to the box, close the lid and set directly on the grill with your veggies or meats. Chips will smoulder to infuse barbecued foods with smoky flavour. *$24. Cookery.*

COOKBOOK OF THE MONTH



My Cypriot Table by Irene Matys

Recipe developer, food stylist and photographer Irene Matys's first cookbook is a love letter to Cyprus, her homeland. With beautiful, sun-soaked food photography and more than 100 recipes, the book features Mediterranean dishes with a Cypriot twist including **Tirokafteri,** a spicy feta dip using hot peppers, sheep's milk cheese and Greek yogurt, and **Cypriot Meatballs,** which combine pork, beef and potatoes with parsley and mint. Don't miss **Baklava Butter Tarts,** a fun blend of Irene's two cultures — she's lived in Canada since 1976. *Appetite by Random House, 2025, $42.*

WEB EXCLUSIVE! For recipes from this book, visit **houseandhome.com/june2025**

NEW COOKWARE

DYNAMIC DUO

Canadian brand Kilne has launched the new **Mini cookware couple,** which includes an 8-inch pot and 9½-inch pan. Compatible with all cooktops and oven safe up to 750°F, the lightweight, nontoxic cookware boasts a durable, nonstick ceramic coating. Available in seven colourways. *In Sage, $265. Kilne.*

Produced and text by Alexandra Whyte/Photography by Ben Ehrensperger (Morgan's portrait)/Steven Lee (crab cake)/courtesy of Irene Matys (Irene's portrait)/Ninja Canada (ice cream machine)/Outset (smoker)/Appetite by Random House (cookbook)/Kilne (cookware)

RECIPES

AS SHOWN ON PAGES 80 TO 84

These recipes are from French at Heart *by Marjorie Taylor and Kendall Smith Franchini. Abrams Books, 2025, $50.*

Quick Gravlax

SERVES 6 TO 8

Salmon

1	*lb. sushi-grade salmon (such as Scottish, coho or sockeye), pin bones removed*
½	*cup sugar*
2	*lbs. coarse sea salt, or as needed*
⅓	*cup extra-virgin olive oil*
6	*small sprigs dill, chopped*

Weeknight Toasts

1	*baguette*
	Extra-virgin olive oil
	Fleur de sel
	Freshly ground black pepper

For Assembly

2	*tbsp salt-packed capers*
⅓	*cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for drizzling*
2	*tsp finely minced shallot*
3	*small sprigs dill*
24	*pieces Weeknight Toasts (see above)*

CURE SALMON

1. The morning of the day before you plan to serve, remove any part of salmon that is significantly thinner, creating an even block of salmon. Remove skin, being careful not to remove too much flesh. Cut block of salmon into 2 even rectangular pieces.

2. Place sugar in small bowl. Dip each piece of salmon into sugar, coating all sides and ends. Cover bottom of gratin dish or similar baking dish that's just large enough to fit all salmon with about ¾" of salt. Place salmon pieces on top, leaving space between pieces, and completely cover with salt. Place in refrigerator for 7 hours. (If you're using a salmon fillet that's less than about 1" thick, refrigerate for only 6 hours.)

3. Rinse salmon completely and dry thoroughly. Place each salmon piece on piece of plastic wrap and drizzle with olive oil so salmon is completely coated. Add chopped dill to top of each piece and wrap in plastic. Refrigerate salmon pieces overnight.

MAKE TOASTS

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Cut baguette into ¼" slices and transfer to sheet pan.

2. Drizzle both sides with extra-virgin olive oil, and season with fleur de sel and freshly ground black pepper. Toast in oven for 8 to 10 minutes, then flip and toast until lightly golden brown, another 8 to 10 minutes.

ASSEMBLE AND SERVE

1. Rinse capers and transfer to towel. Gently pat dry, and leave on fresh towel to dry further for about 60 minutes.

2. Remove plastic wrap from fish and, using sharp knife, cut dill-covered salmon into very thin slices about the size of the toasts you'll use. On large plate, fan out salmon slices in a few rows. Drizzle with olive oil.

3. In small saucepan, heat ⅓ cup of olive oil over medium-high heat until it shimmers. Carefully add dried capers and cook, stirring frequently, until capers are puffed and lightly browned, about 1 minute. Transfer fried capers to towel-lined plate to drain briefly.

4. To serve, top salmon with capers, shallot and small tufts of dill. Serve alongside toasts.

Marinated Goat Cheese

MAKES 4 THREE-OUNCE ROUNDS

4	*rounds fresh artisanal goat cheese (about 3 oz. each) or similar rounds cut from 12 oz. fresh goat cheese logs*
12	*small thyme sprigs*
3	*rosemary sprigs*
3	*fresh bay leaves*
8	*black peppercorns*
2	*cups extra-virgin olive oil (approx.)*

1. Gently place goat cheese in 1-qt. sterilized jar. Add thyme, rosemary, bay leaves and peppercorns. Pour in enough olive oil to cover cheese and herbs completely, making sure there are no air pockets. Store in refrigerator at least overnight, or for up to 2 months.

2. To use cheese, allow jar to come to room temperature until olive oil liquefies. Use any leftover oil in vinaigrettes or on toast.

Summer Légumes Frites

SERVES 6 TO 8

	Neutral frying oil, such as organic canola oil
1½	*cups all-purpose flour, sifted, plus another ¾ cup for dredging*
	Fleur de sel
2	*cups cold sparkling water (preferably a very bubbly type), plus more as needed*
1½	*cups (4 oz.) bite-size cauliflower florets*
	Handful tiny green beans (4 oz.), ends trimmed
1	*medium green zucchini, cut on a diagonal into ¼" slices*
1	*medium yellow summer squash, cut on a diagonal into ¼" slices*
6	*squash blossoms (optional), stamens removed, stems trimmed to 1"*
2	*small Japanese eggplants, trimmed and cut into ¼" rounds*
	Freshly ground black pepper
1	*lemon, cut into ¼" rounds, seeded*
1	*small bunch fresh sage, rinsed and dried very well*
	Handful small flat-leaf parsley sprigs, rinsed and dried very well
	Lemon wedges or slices, for serving

DREDGE VEGETABLES

1. Line sheet pan with clean kitchen towel or paper towels and have it nearby. Pour 5" of oil into a 7-qt. or similar-size deep Dutch oven or heavy pot (or deep fryer) and heat over medium-high heat, until deep-fat thermometer reads 350°F.

2. In medium gratin dish or similar baking dish, place ¾ cup of flour for dredging, and set aside. In medium bowl, whisk together remaining 1½ cups of flour and pinch of salt. Add sparkling water and whisk to combine, adding more water, if needed, until batter is thin enough to almost drip off whisk in steady stream.

3. Season all vegetables with salt and pepper. Working with one piece at a time, dredge vegetables first in flour, just to coat lightly, then in batter, letting excess drip off slightly.

Recipes reprinted with permission from *French at Heart* by Marjorie Taylor and Kendall Smith Franchini. Abrams Books. ©2025. Photography by Anson Smart

DEEP-FRY VEGETABLES AND SERVE

1. Transfer to hot oil and deep-fry. (We find chopsticks or tongs useful for handling the vegetables.) Working in handful-size batches, fry each kind of vegetable separately, turning them in oil as they fry until golden on all sides, 1 to 2 minutes per batch, depending on the vegetable. (Drop each vegetable into oil separately, except for green beans, which form pretty clusters if you drop them in 3 at a time. You may need to adjust the oil temperature between batches to maintain 350°F.) When each batch is cooked, transfer to towel-lined pan and season with salt and pepper.

2. Once all vegetables have been cooked, carefully batter lemon slices and fry for 1 to 2 minutes. Remove lemons and carefully add sage and fry for 10 seconds. Season with salt. Repeat with parsley, adding carefully, as it may sputter.

3. Arrange vegetables and fried lemon slices on platter. Garnish with fried sage and parsley, plus lemon wedges or slices, and serve immediately.

Lemon Tartlets

MAKES 8 FOUR-INCH TARTLETS

Pâte Sucrée (batch)

3	*cups all-purpose flour*
½	*cup sugar*
½	*tsp fleur de sel*
8	*oz. cold unsalted European-style butter, cut into ½" pieces*
2	*large egg yolks*
⅓	*cup heavy cream*

Lemon Tartlets

½	*batch Pâte Sucrée (see above)*
1	*cup sugar, plus more for sprinkling*
¾	*cup fresh lemon juice (from 4 to 5 lemons)*
3	*large eggs, lightly beaten*
3	*large egg yolks, lightly beaten*
4	*oz. unsalted European-style butter, at room temperature, cut into ½" pieces*
¼	*tsp fleur de sel*

MAKE PÂTE SUCRÉE

1. In large bowl, whisk together flour, sugar and salt. Add butter. Using hands, gently toss to coat butter in flour mixture, separating butter pieces as you go. Scoop up mixture in hands and gently press flour mixture and butter between fingertips, repeating until mixture looks sandy, with some small pieces of butter still visible and flour has turned pale-yellow colour. Work quickly to ensure butter stays cold.

2. In small bowl, lightly beat together egg yolks and cream. Drizzle mixture over dough and use fork to gently toss until incorporated. Continue working dough, gently squeezing between fingertips and gathering up any crumbs along bottom of bowl, until it comes together and there is no dry flour visible. Be careful not to overwork dough; it's ready as soon as you can squish dough in one hand and it stays together.

3. Divide dough in half and shape each half into disk about 5" across. Wrap each in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 60 minutes, preferably overnight. Pâte Sucrée can be wrapped in double layer of plastic wrap and refrigerated for up to 2 days or frozen for up to 2 months. To thaw, place dough in refrigerator the day before you want to make tartlets.

MAKE TARTLET SHELLS

1. If chilled overnight, remove dough from refrigerator 30 minutes before rolling to ensure it's slightly soft and ready to roll. (Doughs refrigerated for 60 minutes will be ready, or almost ready, to roll directly from fridge.) Each disk of dough will make eight 4" tartlets.

2. Use bench scraper to divide 1 disk into 8 triangular wedges. Using hands, gently shape each wedge into small cylinder, then flatten cylinders into small disks and roll into rounds 5" to 6" in diameter and ⅛" thick.

3. Once round of dough is slightly larger than tartlet tin, lift by gently rolling it around rolling pin, brushing off any excess flour with pastry brush as you go. Move each piece into tin, being careful not to stretch it as you ease it into bottom and up sides. Begin trimming crust by pushing one thumb against inside edge of tin, keeping dough in place. Use your other thumb to trim away extra dough at top to make flat top edge. Be careful to make dough the same thickness all the way around to create uniform edge. (Keeping the crust's edge uniform will ensure the crust doesn't break as you take it out of the tin after baking.)

4. Freeze formed tartlet shells for 15 to 20 minutes before baking. If you want to freeze tartlet shells for longer, wrap them in double-layer of plastic wrap and freeze for up to 2 months. Frozen tartlet shells can be baked straight from freezer without thawing, for just a few minutes longer.

BAKE TARTLET SHELLS

1. Preheat oven to 375°F. Place chilled tartlet shells on 13" x 18" sheet pan. Cut out eight 6" parchment paper rounds and centre one on top of each prepared tartlet shell. Fill parchment-lined shells with pie weights or dried beans.

2. Bake until edges are set and beginning to turn golden, 10 to 15 minutes. Remove parchment and beans or pie weights. Using wooden tamping tool, gently tamp down bottom surface of shells. Sprinkle bottoms with 1 to 2 teaspoons of sugar. Return to oven and bake until bottom of tartlet shells are completely baked through and golden, 6 to 8 minutes. Set shells on wire rack to cool completely before filling, about 60 minutes. Transfer cooled shells from tins to serving plate or platter.

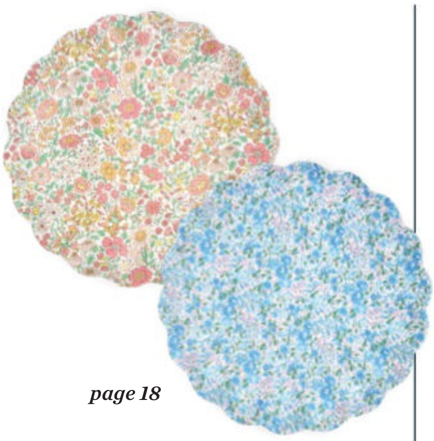
MAKING FILLING AND ASSEMBLE

1. In medium saucepan, whisk together sugar, lemon juice, whole eggs and egg yolks, until combined. Set over medium heat and cook, stirring constantly in figure-eight motion with wooden spoon, until mixture has thickened and coats back of spoon, about 5 minutes. (You'll know it's done when you can draw a line onto the back of the spoon with a finger and the line holds.) Remove from heat.

2. Strain lemon curd through fine-mesh strainer into large bowl. Add butter, one piece at a time, stirring with clean spatula until melted between each addition. Add salt and stir. Pour warm curd directly into tartlet shells until it reaches top of tarts.

3. Set tartlets aside until set in centre, about 2 hours. These are best served the day you make them.

Shopping List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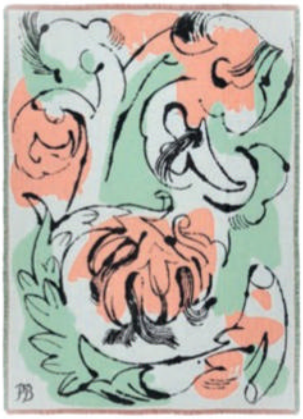
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InsideOut, insideoutpatio.ca
Janet Melrose, instagram.com/calgaryscottagegardener
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Kendall Smith Franchini and Marjorie Taylor, The Cook's Atelier, boutique.thecooksatelier.com
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Lee Valley, 1-800-267-8767 or leevalley.com
Light House Co., (647) 360-0388 or lighthouseco.ca
Livingspace Outdoor, (604) 683-1116 or shop.livingspace.com
Maison Corbeil, maisoncorbeil.com
Marimekko, marimekko.ca
Meri Meri, merimeri.com
Minimal Toronto, minimal-toronto.com
Morgan Bellis, Black+Blue Toronto, blackandbluesteakhouse.ca
Must, mustsociete.com
Old Faithful Shop, oldfaithfulshop.com
Oxford Insta-Shade, oxfordinstashade.com
Petra Börner, petraborner.com
Pilar Agueci, pilaragueci.com

Pottery Barn Canada, potterybarn.ca
Prairie Gardens, prairiegardens.org
Rauw Jewelry, rauwjewelry.com
Ritchie Feed & Seed, ritchiefeed.com
Robinson Lighting & Bath, 1-800-931-1178 or robinsonco.ca
Rona, 1-866-283-2239 or rona.ca
Salvador Dalí, thedali.org
Schumacher, schumacher.com
Sephora Canada, 1-877-737-4672 or sephora.com

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Sheryl Normandeau, floweryprose.com
Simons, simons.ca
Tasco Appliances, tascoappliance.ca
Tori Wesszer, fraicheliving.com
TouchWood Editions, touchwoodeditions.com
Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com
Walmart Canada, walmart.ca
Wayfair Canada, wayfair.ca
Y&Co, (416) 968-7700, (514) 287-8998 or ycocarpet.com

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Source Guide

TRAD
WITH A TWIST

TRAD WITH A TWIST *Pages 34 to 41*

Design, Amanda L. Hoyle, Sey Studios, sey-studios.com.

PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS
Kristina Schmidt, artbykristinaschmidt.com
Loaf, loaf.com
Lucie Annabel, lucieannabel.com
Lusso, lussostone.com
Marble Granite Limestone Warehouse, stock.mglwuk.com
Nordic Knots, nordicknots.com
Open Doors Gallery, opendoors.gallery
Ourika London, ourikalondon.com
Philip Maltman, philipmaltman.com
Pure White Lines, purewhitelines.com
Six The Residence, sixtheresidence.co.uk
Soho Home, sohohome.com
The Spotlight Market, thespotlightmarket.com
Tacit, tacitcollective.com
The Unstyled House, theunstyledhouse.com
Vintiques, vintiques.biz
The White Company, thewhitecompany.com

Page 35: Pendant, Soho Home; coffee table, Vintiques; rug, Nordic Knots. ***Page 36:* Top left:** Mirror, Soho Home. **Top right:** Sofa, Loaf; art by Philip Maltman. **Bottom left:** Console, Soho Home; ottoman, Six The Residence; photographic art by Max Miechowski, Open Doors Gallery. ***Page 37:*** Armchair by Jindřich Halabala, Pure White Lines. ***Page 38:*** Pendant, Soho Home; table, The Unstyled House; vintage chairs, The Spotlight Market. ***Page 39:*** **Top:** Sconces, Soho Home; porcelain, Marble Granite Limestone Warehouse; faucet, Lusso. ***Page 40:* Top left:** Bed frame, nightstand, Soho Home; art by Kristina Schmidt. ***Page 41:* Top left:** Vintage rug, Ourika London. **Top right:** White bed linens, The White Company; art by Sarah Short, Tacit. **Bottom right:** Wallpaper, Lucie Annabel.

My
Favourite
CLIENT

MY FAVOURITE CLIENT *Pages 42 to 49*

Design, Brian McCourt, Brian McCourt Design & Build, (437) 882-7426 or brianmccourtdesigns.com

PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS
Bath Depot, bathdepot.ca
Caesarstone, caesarstone.ca
Crate & Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca
Euro Tile & Stone, eurotilestone.com
Facebook Marketplace, facebook.com/marketplace
Fuzion Flooring, fuzionflooring.com
The Home Depot Canada, 1-800-628-0525 or homedepot.ca
HomeSense, 1-800-646-9466 or homesense.ca
Ikea, 1-866-866-IKEA or ikea.ca
Lee Jofa (to the trade), 1-800-535-3258 or leejofa.com
Light House Co., (647) 360-0388 or lighthouseco.ca
Richelieu, richelieu.com
Ruggable, ruggable.com
Structube, structube.com
Wayfair Canada, wayfair.ca

Hardwood flooring, Fuzion Flooring. ***Page 42:*** Drapes, Ikea; table lamp, The Home Depot Canada; swivel chairs, Light House Co.; coffee table, vase, HomeSense; stool, Facebook Marketplace; rug, Ruggable. ***Page 44:* Top left:** Stool, Facebook Marketplace. ***Page 45:*** Wallpaper, Lee Jofa; backsplash, counters, Caesarstone; cabinet pulls, Richelieu; runner, Ruggable. ***Page 46:*** Pendant, Crate & Barrel; dining chairs, Structube; side table, HomeSense. ***Page 47:*** Mirror, sconces, Wayfair Canada; faucet, vanity, Bath Depot; tile, Euro Tile & Stone. ***Page 48:*** Nightstand, HomeSense; rug, Ruggable. ***Page 49:* Top right:** Wardrobes, Ikea; sconce by GlucksteinElements, The Home Depot Canada; desk chair, Facebook Marketplace. **Bottom right:** Backsplash, counter, Caesarstone; sink, Bath Depot.

Serenity
NOW

SERENITY NOW *Pages 50 to 57*

Architectural design, Hatch Designs, (416) 333-0941 or hatchdesigns.ca; design, Maayan Kessler and Jo Levitan, Kessler Levitan Design, kesslerlevitandesign.com.

PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS
ADH Fine Hardware, adhhardware.ca
Benjamin Moore, 1-855-724-6802 or benjaminmoore.com
CB2, cb2.ca
Ciot, ciot.com
Design Within Reach, dwr.com
Elte, (416) 785-7885 or elte.com
EQ3, 1-888-988-2014 or eq3.com
Etsy, etsy.com
Ginger's, (416) 785-7885 or elte.com
Ikea, 1-866-866-IKEA or ikea.ca
Kingston Brass, kingstonbrasshome.com
Mkt, (416) 789-0800 or eltemkt.com
The Modern Shop, (613) 562-4863 or themodernshop.com
Nordic Knots, nordicknots.com
Roman Bath Centre, (416) 787-1219 or romanbathcentre.com
Saltillo Imports, (416) 441-2224 or saltillo-tiles.com
Stone Tile, 1-866-669-1103 or stone-tile.com
Threadcount Textile & Design, threadcountinc.com
Upton, whatsupton.com
West Elm, westelm.com

Page 50: Chairs, Design Within Reach; banquette upholstery fabric, Threadcount Textile & Design. ***Page 51:*** Hardware, ADH Fine Hardware. ***Page 52:*** Fireplace surround, Stone Tile; armchair, Mkt; coffee table, Elte. ***Page 53:* Bottom left:** Stools,

CONTINUED

Source Guide

Design Within Reach; faucet by Waterworks, Ginger's; cabinet colour, Edgecomb Gray (HC-173), Benjamin Moore. ***Page 54:*** **Right:** Bench, Elte; tile, Saltillo Imports. **Bottom left:** Drapery fabric, Threadcount Textile & Design; slipcovered dining chairs, CB2; black dining chairs, Design Within Reach. ***Page 55:*** **Top right:** Mirror, Etsy; vases, Mkt. **Bottom left:** Bed frame, EQ3; side tables, Ikea; rug, Nordic Knots; art, Upton. **Bottom right:** Faucet, Roman Bath Centre; vanity, Kingston Brass. ***Page 56:*** **Top left:** Shower tile, Ciot. **Right:** Hardware, ADH Fine Hardware. ***Page 57:*** Sconce, The Modern Shop; bed upholstery and bolster fabric, Threadcount Textile & Design; rug, West Elm; art, Etsy.

MODERN MASTERPIECE

MODERN MASTERPIECE *Pages 58 to 67*

Design, Linnea Lions and Martin de Sousa, Designström, designstrom.com.

PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS

Abacus Furniture, (416) 251-7251 or abacusfurniture.com
Anewall, anewall.com
Aquavato, aquavato.com
ARD Outdoor, ardoutdoor.com
Atelier Arking, arking.ca
Caesarstone, caesarstone.ca
Cedar & Moss, cedarandmoss.com
Centura Tile, centura.ca
Cercan Tile, (416) 413-9008 or cercantile.com
Chair Source, (905) 761-8790 or chairsource.ca
Ciot, ciot.com
Cosentino, cosentino.com
Deluxe Stair & Railing, (905) 640-1434 or deluxestair.com
Design Within Reach, dwr.com
Euro Tile & Stone, eurotilestone.com
Huey Lightshop, hueylightshop.com
Kravet Canada (to the trade), 1-800-535-3258 or kravetcanada.com
Lambert & Fils, (514) 394-0762 or lambertetfils.com
Luminaire Authentik, (514) 662-0352 or luminaireauthentik.com
NewWall, (905) 238-2700 or newwall.com
Olympia Tile & Stone, (416) 785-6666 or olympiatile.com
Stein + Regency Construction Management, (647) 797-3505 or steinregency.com
Unik Parquet, (819) 888-2856 or unikparquet.com
West Elm, westelm.com
Wood Studio, (905) 891-9663 or popeofwood.com

Builder, Stein + Regency Construction Management ***Page 58:*** Outdoor furniture, ARD Outdoor. ***Page 59:*** Ceiling fixture, Lambert & Fils; custom dining table, Abacus Furniture; dining chairs, Chair Source. ***Page 60:*** **Left:** Tile, Centura Tile. ***Page 61:*** Flush-mount ceiling fixture, Huey Lightshop; custom railing and stairs, Deluxe Stair & Railing; custom bench, Atelier Arking; tile, Ciot. ***Page 63:*** **Top right:** Tile, Euro Tile & Stone; sconces, Cedar & Moss; counter, Cosentino. **Bottom left:** Pendant by Pablo Designs, Design Within Reach; wallpaper by Cole & Son, Kravet Canada; counter, Caesarstone; custom vanity, Wood Studio. ***Page 65:*** **Top:** Millwork, Wood Studio; backsplash, counters, island, Olympia Tile & Stone; stools, Design Within Reach; hardwood flooring, Unik Parquet. **Bottom:** Backsplash, Cercan Tile. ***Page 66:*** **Top:** Ceiling fixture, West Elm; wallpaper, NewWall; bed frame, Design Within Reach. **Bottom:** Tile, Ciot. ***Page 67:*** **Top left:** Tub by Bagno Italia, Aquavato. **Top right:** Wallpaper, Anewall; sconce, Luminaire Authentik. **Bottom left:** Wallpaper, Kravet Canada. **Bottom right:** Custom millwork, Wood Studio.

Personal Space

PERSONAL SPACE *Pages 69 to 77*

The Spa Effect architecture, Great Lake Studio, (416) 828-6982 or greatlakestudio.ca; design, Suzanne Dimma, suzannedimma.com; Timeless Trad design, Laurence Pons Lavigne and Mélanie Cherrier, Blanc Marine Intérieurs, (514) 613-2077 or blancmarine.ca; Prairie Modern design, Nyla Free, Nyla Free Designs, nylafreedesigns.com; Serene & Spacious design, Curtis Elmy and Trevor Ciona, Atmosphere Interior Design, (306) 373-3004 or atmosphereid.ca.

PRINCIPAL SUPPLIERS

Arta Ceramic, artaceramic.com
Athena Calderone, athenacalderone.com
Blanc Marine Boutique, blancmarineboutique.com
Canadian Rockies Woodcraft, (403) 295-6581
CB Marble Craft, (416) 741-1585 or cbmarblecraft.com

CB2, cb2.ca
Centura Tile, centura.ca
CF Interiors, cfinteriors.ca
Daltile, daltile.com
DWA Interior Furnishings, (403) 245-4014 or dwainteriors.com
Espace Plomberium, espaceplomberium.com
The Gather Studio, thegatherstudio.com
Ginger's, (416) 785-7885 or elte.com
Hannah Woodhouse, artwalllights.com
HomeSense, 1-800-646-9466 or homesense.ca
Italbec, (514) 383-0668 or italbec.com
Julian Tile, juliantile.com
Kallista, 1-888-452-5547 or kallista.com
Kohler, kohler.com
Lovewood by Zoltech, (416) 936-8113 or lovewood.ca
M2 Contractors, m2contractors.ca
Myoh, myoh.ca
Rëdl World Class Kitchens, redlkitchens.com
Robinson Lighting & Bath, 1-800-931-1178 or robinsonco.ca
The Royal Flush Kitchen & Bath Boutique, (403) 228-2934 or royalflushbathboutique.ca
Saltillo Imports, (416) 441-2224 or saltillo-tiles.com
Stone Tile, 1-866-669-1103 or stone-tile.com
Umbra, umbra.com
Union Lighting & Decor, (514) 340-5000 or unionlighting.com
Victoria + Albert, vandabaths.com

The Spa Effect: Contracting, M2 Contractors. ***Page 69:*** Tile, Stone Tile; hardwood flooring, Lovewood by Zoltech. ***Page 70:*** Shower wall tile, Saltillo Imports; shower fixtures, Ginger's. ***Page 71:* Top:** Sconce, Hannah Woodhouse; mirrors, Umbra; basket (under vanity), Ginger's. **Bottom:** Towels, HomeSense; bowl, The Gather Studio; custom plinth fabrication, CB Marble Craft. **Timeless Trad:** ***Page 72:*** Tub, Victoria + Albert; wall and floor tile, Italbec; rug, painting, Blanc Marine Boutique. ***Page 73:*** **Top:** Shower and tub fixtures by Perrin & Rowe, Espace Plomberium; marble shower and niche trim, Arta Ceramic; shower tile, mosaic floor, Centura Tile. **Bottom:** Mirror, CB2; sconces by Visual Comfort, Union Lighting & Decor; faucet by Perrin & Rowe, Espace Plomberium. **Prairie Modern:** Contracting, Peter Mirosevic, Canadian Rockies Woodcraft. ***Page 74:*** Shower fixtures and tub filler by Watermark, The Royal Flush Kitchen & Bath Boutique; blue wall tile, Daltile; large-format wall tile, Julian Tile; tub, Victoria + Albert; floor tile, Centura Tile. ***Page 75:* Top:** Mirrors by Made Goods, CF Interiors; faucets by Watermark, sinks by Laufen, The Royal Flush Kitchen & Bath Boutique. **Bottom:** Wallpaper by Designers Guild, DWA Interior Furnishings; sconces by Visual Comfort, Robinson Lighting & Bath; mirror by Arteriors, CF Interiors. **Serene & Spacious:** ***Page 76:*** Wall and floor tile, Stone Tile; tub faucet, Kohler; tub, Kallista. ***Page 77:* Top:** Sconce, Kallista; makeup niche fabrication, Rëdl World Class Kitchens. **Bottom:** Sconces, sinks, Kallista; faucets, Kohler; vanity fabrication, Rëdl World Class Kitchens; hardware, Myoh. H&H

In the Next Issue

JULY/AUGUST

THE SUMMER ISSUE!

Cottages, country houses and pools, plus easy-breezy summer decorating ideas.

▼ A STUNNING MODERN NEW-BUILD WITH INTERIORS BY SAMANTHA SACKS

INSIDE PARRIS McKENNA'S COOL COTTAGE BUNKIE IN MUSKOKA ▼

RECIPES FOR COTTAGE LIFE FROM ANDREA BUCKETT'S NEW COOKBOOK ▶

ON SALE JUNE 16

RSVP

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

renovation ("The Comforts of Home") by Jonathan Legate was breathtaking! Gorgeous use of colour. With so much change in our world, I hope your magazine remains a constant. Thank you!
— SARAH M.

H&H, my favourite magazine, arrived yesterday on Colorado-Canada Friendship Day. I was pleased to read Lynda's comment in April's RSVP that many U.S. citizens are unhappy with the threats of tariffs. Many of us are even more outraged that our president advocates that Canada becomes the 51st state. Governor Jared Polis celebrated Friendship Day by flying your beautiful flag over our capitol and lighting the building with red and white. He also reminded us that, in 2023, 18 per cent of our trade exports were with Canada, we hosted more than 176,000 Canadian visitors, plus we're home to 272 Canadian-owned businesses. I believe most Coloradans would like our close relationship to continue but would understand if Canadians feel the need to stay home. Whatever happens, I'll continue to subscribe.
— LYNDA FOX, *Denver*

In April's RSVP, there was a comment from Maryam Siddiqi in regards to a letter by Kara Gonzales. It stated that she visited Bloomington and its neighbour, Columbus, Ohio. I believe that should be Columbus, Ind. Maryam mentioned the architectural aspect of the city, which is what leads me to believe it was the wrong state.
— GERALD ST. AMAND

Editor's note: *You're right! We should have written Columbus, Ind., instead.*

Once and for all, stop putting beds in front of windows! It's insecure, hot in the summer and cold in the winter!
— WENDY R.

CANADIAN
HOUSE & HOME
Kitchens!
10 AMAZING SPACES
HIGH-LOW BUDGETS FOR KITCHENS WE CRAVE
12 BEAUTIFUL BANQUETTES
Plus YOTAM OTTOLENGHI'S Favourite Go-to Recipes

The March issue is the most beautiful and cohesive collection of wonderful design! The whole magazine is gorgeous from cover to cover, particularly the features "Once & Again" and "Living the Dream." The warmth of these homes comes through incredibly.
— SUE PEACOCK, *Kelowna, B.C.*

I'm a fan of your magazine and country. I'm embarrassed and also frustrated by the words and acts of our current government. I'm a proud American who's ashamed and angered by the administration. Canada is our friend; I've visited several times and have been treated with respect by your citizens. You deserve the same from our country.
— ANN S.

Could you feature more Canadian artists and furniture makers? We looked around our home and realized we didn't default to Wayfair. We have custom furniture from Alberta, West Coast art, antiques from Ontario and Quebec, plus art from Alberta sculptor Slavo Cech and painter Samantha Williams-Chapelsky. Show us your Canada!
— HEATHER AND BRUCE WELWOOD

When I first started seeing the fluting trend, I thought it looked fresh and interesting. Now, I feel that if I see one more fluted anything, I'll lose my mind. Let's please get over it!
— J. M., *Edmonton*

I'd like to second Daved's suggestion from Jan-Feb's RSVP to produce an article on easy ways to decorate for each season. I think that's a great idea and could be shown from high to low.
— L. DAVIS, *North Cowichan, B.C.*

I glance through H&H and am amazed at what homeowners are willing to spend their money on. I marvel at bathrooms with multiple sinks but no surface to put toiletries on, and no useful storage. I read somewhere that medicine cabinets went out of favour because the mirrors weren't lovely enough. Does anyone on your design team have the courage to bring back medicine cabinets?
— GABRIELLE LOTIMER

I'm a general contractor and sometimes work with designers, but mostly not. When I see the projects in H&H, the thing that often strikes me is the skill that was required to bring the designer's vision to life. It could be the moulding, tiling, cabinets or flooring; even the drywall, in some cases, is truly a work of art. Executing these literal feats is mind-boggling. Yet the people who are making these things and executing the plans are never mentioned. Why is that? I'm sure readers would be interested in who actually built those arches and cabinets, or painted the high-gloss ceilings, or built the stunning stairs.
— SIMONE TODOROFF

Editor's note: *The talented trades responsible for the interiors you admire work mostly for the designers on each project. Understandably, designers are protective of their teams.*

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

RSVP, House & Home, 354 Davenport Rd., Suite G1, Toronto, Ont., M5R 1K6
or letters@hhmedia.com

Letters may be edited for publication.

Additional letters will be posted on houseandhome.com/rsvp.

Find us on X, Pinterest, Facebook, Instagram and Threads

Photography by Nate Sheets (March 2025 cover)

FOOD NEWS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 85

Morgan Bellis's Crab Cakes

SERVES 4

Honey Mustard Vinaigrette (batch)

- 1 *cup grapeseed or other neutral oil*
- 1 *egg yolk*
- ¼ *cup apple cider vinegar*
- 1 *tsp grainy mustard*
- 1 *tsp Dijon mustard*
- 1 *clove garlic, minced*
- ½ *tsp honey*

Slaw

- 3 *apples, cut into matchsticks*
- 2 *pieces celeriac, cut into matchsticks*

Charred Lemon Aioli (batch)

- 4 *lemons*
- 3 *cups mayonnaise*
- 1 *clove garlic, minced*
- *Handful finely chopped dill*
- *Zest ½ lime*

Crab Cakes

- 1 *cup Dungeness crab meat*
- 1 *cup rock crab meat*
- 3 *tbsp Japanese mayonnaise*
- 2 *tbsp minced celery*
- 1 *tbsp minced chives*
- *Zest 1 lemon*
- ½ *tsp kosher salt*
- ½ *cup Japanese breadcrumbs or panko*
- 2 *tbsp canola oil*

MAKE VINAIGRETTE, SLAW AND AIOLI

1. Using food processor, add all Vinaigrette ingredients and blend until smooth. Season with salt, to taste. Set aside in resealable container in fridge for up to 1 week.

2. For Slaw, in large bowl, add apple and celeriac matchsticks. Add vinaigrette, to taste, and toss to combine. Set aside.

3. For Aioli, cut lemons in half. Place cut sides down on hot pan and let cook until dark in colour. Squeeze and strain juice (yields about a quarter cup). In small metal bowl, add all ingredients and mix by hand. Season with salt and pepper, to taste. Set aside.

MAKE CRAB CAKES AND ASSEMBLE

1. Preheat oven to 350°F. In stainless steel bowl, mix crab meat together. Squeeze liquid out of crab and discard.

2. Add mayonnaise, celery, chives, lemon zest and kosher salt to crab meat, and mix until combined.

3. Divide mix into 4 portions. Form each portion into puck shape with your hands. Lightly press flat side of puck into panko, then flip and repeat.

4. Place large, oven-safe frying pan on medium heat and drizzle canola oil in pan. Bring to smoking point.

5. Add crab cakes to pan and cook for 3 to 4 minutes, or until golden brown on bottom. Flip crab cakes, then place pan in preheated oven for 4 minutes.

6. Remove from oven, add to plates with Slaw and Charred Lemon Aioli and serve. H&H

HOUSE & HOME
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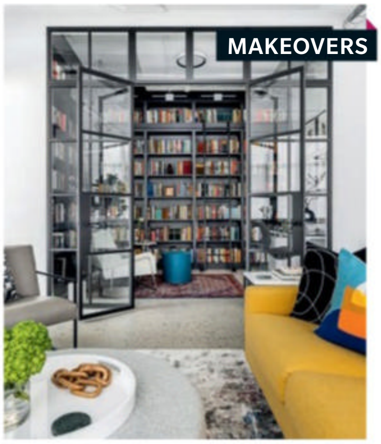
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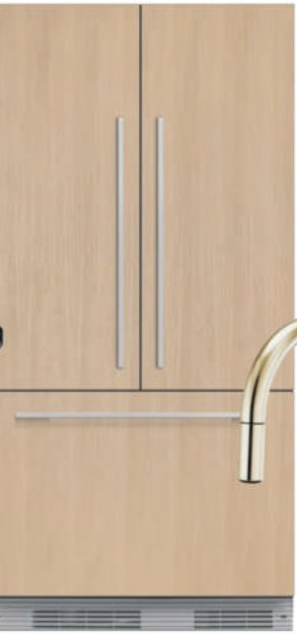
NEW VIDEOS EVERY WEEK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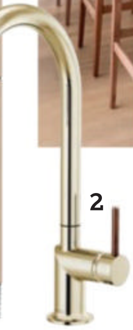
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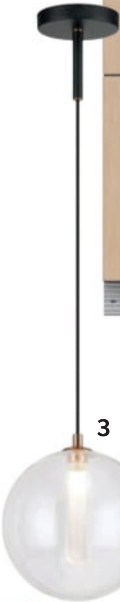
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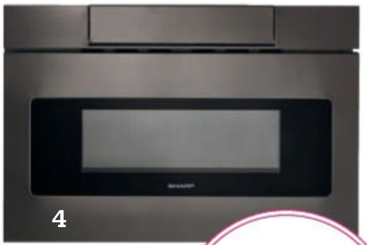
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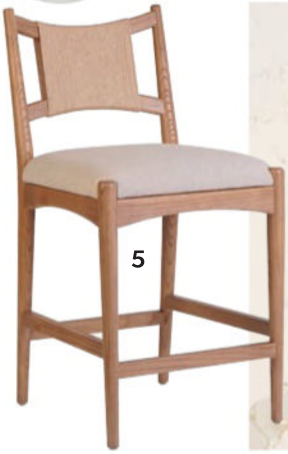
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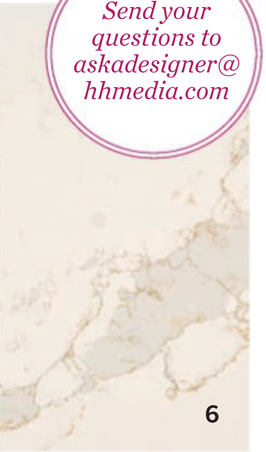
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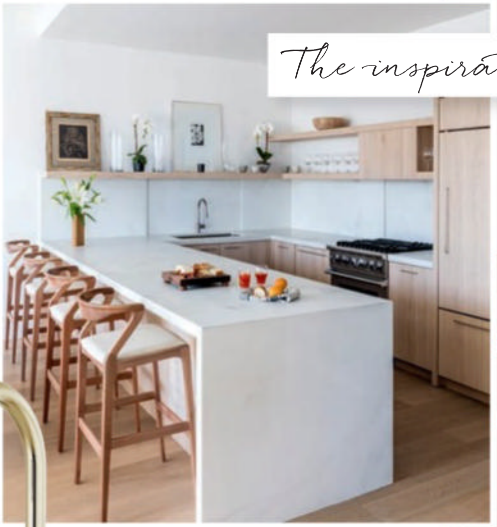
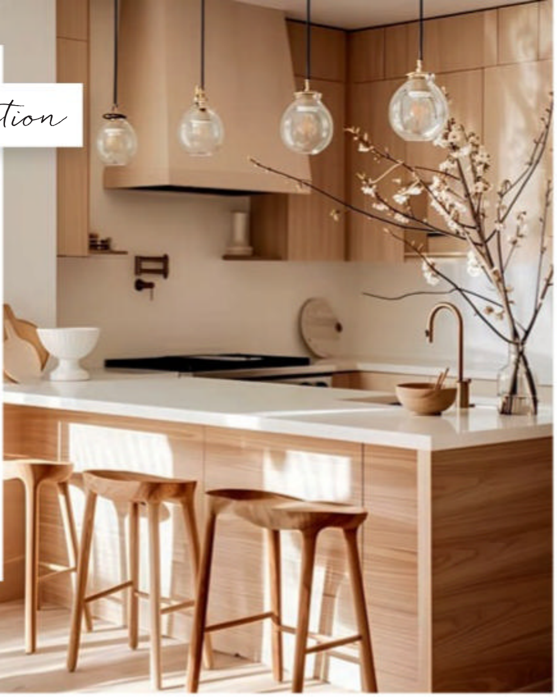




The inspiration

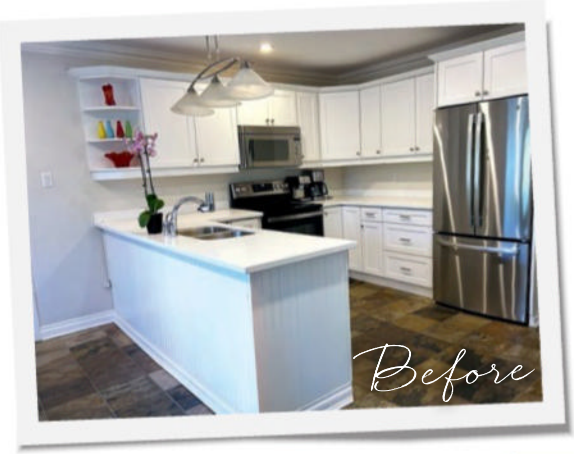
Clean Slate

Gillian Atkins' best advice for a kitchen refresh.

Send your questions to askadesigner@hhmedia.com

Q We're thinking about renovating our kitchen. Should we replace the cabinets? I'd love to take the uppers right to the ceiling. Counter and backsplash recommendations? I'd also like to swap out the microwave over the stove for a vent hood. Our slate tile floors look dated, and they butt up against cherry hardwood in other rooms. Do you have any suggestions? —**S.M.,** *London, Ont.*

A Yes, replace those cabinets; they don't owe you anything. Consider blond wood cabinets with an off-white Caesarstone counter and backsplash that has some veining. Extend the counter to create an overhang for stools, and then "waterfall" the stone down the end of the counter to the floor. I love the look of open shelving (*see left inspo shot*), but if you need the storage, take the new cabinets up to the ceiling (*see right inspo shot*). Line up the uppers with the new extended counter and remove your corner shelves. Keep your stove location but centre it, and add a custom, tapered vent hood to create a focal point. Then, put a microwave drawer in the lower cabinets next to the fridge. Consider swapping out your big standard-depth fridge with a more streamlined, panelled, counter-depth model. Replace your light fixture with minimalist pendants and add accessories. Now, about the floors... that slate tile should go. Install a large-scale porcelain tile in a neutral, creamy tone, which will work well with the cherry hardwood in the rest of the house.



Before

Gillian Atkins is a senior designer at Lynda Reeves Design Studio, LRDS.

***1.** 36" Integrated French Door **refrigerator-freezer** by Fisher & Paykel, $7,699. Tasco Appliances. **2.** Odin Pull-down **faucet** in Brilliance Polished Gold by Brizo, $790. Robinson Lighting & Bath. **3.** Small Magma **pendant** in Clear by Matteo Lighting, $202. Light House Co. **4.** 24" **microwave drawer** in Black Stainless Steel by Sharp, $3,000. Tasco Appliances. **5.** Haddon **counter stool** in Natural Nettlewood by Four Hands, $999. Arcadia Modern Home. **6.** Quartz **surface** in 5116 Calacatta Nectar, from $70/sq.ft. Caesarstone.*

Photography by Alex Lukey (Gillian's portrait)/courtesy of Prime Renovations (kitchen with open shelves)/Home Companion (kitchen with pendants)/Room design by Hauptli Haus (kitchen with open shelves)

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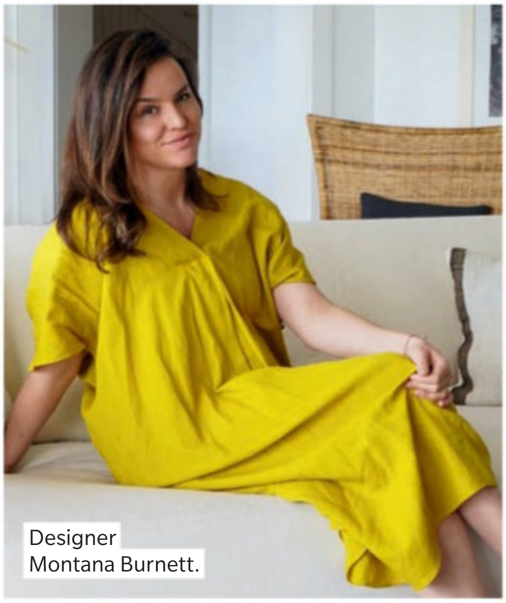
Designer Montana Burnett.

Spatchcocked Chicken with Cherry Street Chicken Rub and Barbecue Sauce

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NEW NAUTICAL

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Produced by **AMANDA SMITH** | *Text by* **CHELSEA DOLAN**

It's time to embrace subtle seaside vibes in home and fashion with classic stripes in muted colours. Choose a sophisticated palette of cream, beige and light brown alongside woven and rope elements. This elegantly nautical bathroom by The 1818 Collective (*above*) makes waves with floor-to-ceiling stripes, and a rustic stone sink and stool. Try the trend for yourself with a braided rope mirror from **Light House Co.,** neutral **H&M Home** bath towel and textured throw pillow cover from **Ah-Bohd Home Store.** A ceramic seashell plate by **Oksana Berda** adds the perfect coastal touch. In fashion, an Alberta Ferretti model (*above*) brings breezy vibes to the runway with striped trousers, strappy sandals and a flowy top. Get on board with a woven satchel from **Anthropologie** and raffia-look **Nine West** mules, then hit the deck with a **Mizuki** gold and pearl necklace and shell-motif studs by **Rauw Jewelry.** Finish your look with Sea Bliss eau de toilette from **Holt Renfrew, Clinique**'s shimmering eye shadow palette and a **Guerlain** lipstick tucked into a shell-like, golden case.

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1. *Large Shell* ***plate*** *by Oksana Berda, Pilar Agueci.* **2.** *Bath* ***towel*** *in Beige Stripes, H&M Home.* **3.** *Sea* ***studs*** *in 24K Gold Vermeil, Rauw Jewelry.* **4.** *All About Shadow Duo* ***eye shadow*** *in Seashell Pink–fawn Satin, Clinique.* **5.** *Sea of Beauty 14K Gold Double-chain* ***necklace*** *with Pearl by Mizuki, Holt Renfrew.* **6.** *Magdalen* ***mirror*** *by Surya, Light House Co.* **7.** *Asymmetrical Hardware Woven* ***satchel*** *in Cream, Anthropologie.* **8.** *Rouge G L'Art Déco* ***lipstick case*** *in Gold Metal and* ***refillable lipstick*** *in 360 Le Beige Nu by Guerlain, Sephora Canada.* **9.** *Jace* ***pillow cover*** *by Mercana, Ah-Bohd Home Store.* **10.** *Palazzo Nobile Sea Bliss* ***eau de toilette*** *by Valmont, Holt Renfrew.* **11.** *Nikhil Wedge Heel Twisted Strap* ***mule*** *in Hazelnut by Nine West, Simons.*

Photography by Nicole Franzen (bathroom)/Launchmetrics (fashion)/Room design by The 1818 Collective (bathroom)

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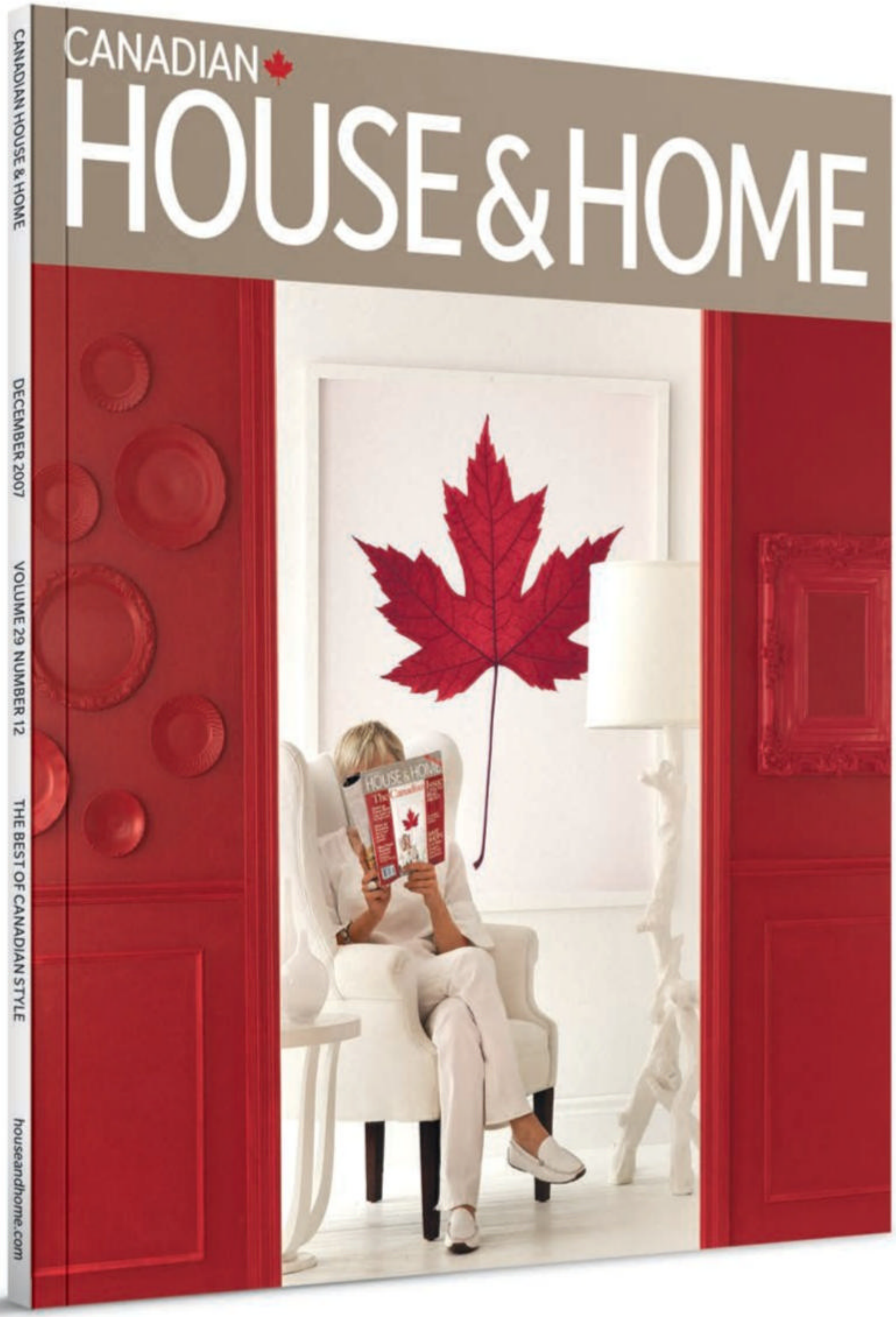
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